



Safety Statement

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Product Name: ACB Botanical Sugar Complex

Code: 20039

INCI Name: Tapioca Starch & Lactobacillus Ferment Lysate

ACB Botanical Sugar Complex is manufactured by first processing (grinding/milling) of *Manihot esculenta* (tapioca). The tapioca is fermented with *Lactobacillus* for a specific duration at a specific pH and temperature, followed by purification to isolate the starch fraction before filtration.

Tapioca starch is widely used in food preparations and manufacturing processes. The starch is commonly used as a thickener and stabilizer in fruit pies, breads, pudding, sauces and more. It is a key ingredient in the manufacture of noodles and crackers and is also used to make tapioca pearls, commonly referred to as sago seeds, for dessert dishes.¹

Lactobacillus is a genus of microorganisms used to produce a variety of food products. It is a type of Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB) and converts various sugars into lactic acid. Any existing LAB in ACB Botanical Sugar Complex is removed by filtration. Since *Lactobacillus* species and tapioca starch are both intentionally used in food, they may be classified as Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) according to the FDA's Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.²

The act states:

Any substance that is intentionally added to food is a food additive, that is subject to premarket review and approval by FDA, unless the substance is generally recognized, among qualified experts, as having been adequately shown to be safe under the conditions of its intended use, or unless the use of the substance is otherwise excluded from the definition of a food additive.²

The Cosmetic Ingredient Review (CIR) conducted a safety assessment on 106 polysaccharide ingredients used in cosmetic products, including tapioca starch. The expert panel reviewed relevant animal and human data on these materials and concluded that most of the polysaccharide gums, including tapioca starch, are safe in the present practices of use and concentration in cosmetics.³

ACB Botanical Sugar Complex was tested using *in vitro* dermal and ocular irritation models. This product was found to be non-irritating in both models.

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ACB Botanical Sugar Complex was also tested for its effect on cell viability and metabolism. The assay concluded that at normal use concentrations ACB Botanical Sugar does not exhibit any inhibition of cell viability and is not cytotoxic, indicating it can safely be used in cosmetic materials. The full irritation and viability reports are attached for reference.

The above information supports the safety of ACB Botanical Sugar Complex in cosmetic applications at use levels of 1.0 – 10.0%. No further testing is required at this time.

1. "International Starch Trading". Science Park Aarhus, Denmark. Tapioca Starch Applications. <http://www.starch.dk/isi/applic/tapiocavarious.htm>
2. Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. U.S Food and Drug Administration. www.fda.gov.
3. "Safety Assessment of Polysaccharide Gums as Used in Cosmetics". Cosmetic Ingredient Review .<http://online.personalcarecouncil.org/ctfa-static/online/lists/cir-pdfs/FR680.pdf>

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