

15 January 2024

To whom it may concern:

The manufacturer of Kimball Midwest product Bio-Maxx™ (Item Number 80-1615) represents that this product DOES contain the following allergen: soybean oil methyl esters manufactured from soybeans.

However, they state the following:

“Food allergies are caused by specific **protein** components of the most common allergenic foods.

Edible fats or oils processed by typical U.S. procedures are highly refined, bleached, and deodorized (RBD) and contain NO detectable protein. The high temperatures (~500°F) employed by edible oil refineries to remove the off-odor and off-flavor components from soybean and other vegetable oils during the deodorization process (in combination with the sparge steam and near vacuum conditions) would degrade any source of nitrogen (including that found in proteinaceous material) that might be present.

An international study completed in 2003 headed by food toxicologist Sue Hefle along with food scientist Steve Taylor of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln confirmed that highly refined soybean oil does not cause reactions in people who are allergic to soybeans. Public Law 108-282 (the “Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act of 2004”) amended 21 USC 321 to define the meaning of the term “major food allergen” and in doing so specifically exempted highly refined oils and any ingredient derived from such highly refined oils from this definition.

The methyl esters, crude glycerin, and ester fats used by [KM trusted supplier] are only derived from highly refined, bleached, and deodorized vegetable oils. Therefore, methyl esters, crude glycerine and ester fats used by [KM trusted supplier] would be exempt from this definition.”

Please contact the Compliance Team at 800-233-1294 if you need additional information.

This information has been provided by the manufacturer and is accurate to the best of Kimball Midwest’s knowledge. No warranty is expressed or implied regarding its accuracy.

Regards,

Miranda Cox
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Kimball Midwest