



# ACESULFAME K

Acesulfame K (INS 950, E 950) is a calorie-free sweetener discovered in 1967. It is 130-200 times sweeter than sucrose.

Acesulfame K is not metabolised by the body and is excreted by the kidneys unchanged.

Acesulfame-K has been evaluated by several independent food safety bodies and national food agencies including the Scientific Committee on Food (SCF) of the European Commission – now the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) – in 2000, and the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) in 1990. The Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) for acesulfame-K set by the SCF is 9 mg/kg body weight. JECFA set an ADI of 15 mg/kg body.

In the EU, acesulfame-K is approved for use in a variety of foods, beverages and tabletop sweeteners under Annex II of Regulation 1333/2008.

In 2003 the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended its food additive regulations to provide for the safe use of acesulfame-K as a general-purpose sweetener and flavour enhancer in food, not including meat and poultry.

Acesulfame-K is also approved in more than 100 countries, including Japan, Switzerland, Norway, Canada and Australia.