



ASPARTAME-ACESULFAME SALT

DESCRIPTION

Aspartame-acesulfame salt (INS 962, E 962) is a low calorie sweetener containing ionically bound aspartame and acesulfame. On a weight basis aspartame-acesulfame salt consists of 64% aspartame and 36% acesulfame.

RELATIVE SWEETNESS

Approximately 350 times sweeter than sugar.

METABOLISM

In saliva and ultimately in the gastric juice, aspartame-acesulfame salt dissociates into aspartame and acesulfame. Aspartame is digested and metabolised in the body, acesulfame is not metabolised by the body, but excreted by the kidneys.

Because of its intense sweetness, the amounts used are small enough for aspartame-acesulfame salt to be considered as virtually calorie-free.

BENEFITS

- Tastes like sugar, with clean full round sweetness profile
- The calories in foods and beverages can be reduced by substituting sugar with aspartame-acesulfame salt
- It does not promote tooth decay
- Suitable for diabetics
- Rapidly dissolving, free flowing and non-hygroscopic
- Guaranteed ratio of the synergistic sweeteners. Segregation can not take place.
- Suitable for chewing-gum as slow releasing sweetener. No encapsulation required.
- Stable powder making it very suitable for dry and semi dry powder applications

APPLICATIONS

Aspartame-acesulfame salt can basically be used in applications in which aspartame and acesulfame-K are used too. Applications in which aspartame-acesulfame salt performs extremely well are:

- table-top sweetener tablets and sachets
- spoon-for-spoon sweetener
- chewing-gum
- confectionery
- instant desserts
- instant powder drinks
- pharmaceutical powders & tablets
- functional foods
- chocolate



SAFETY

Aspartame-acesulfame salt dissolves completely in saliva and gastric juice to release only known aspartame and acesulfame molecules. A multitude of safety studies have been conducted on the constituent components and no adverse effects were reported.

STATUS

Aspartame-acesulfame salt has been approved by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) and by the Scientific Committee on Food (SCF) of the European Commission (2000) - now the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Aspartame-acesulfame salt is authorised in the EU under the Sweetener Directive 94/35/EC and in the USA, where it falls under the existing regulations on aspartame and acesulfame-K. Furthermore it can be used in Canada, Mexico, China, Russia, Hong-Kong, Australia and New Zealand.

ADI

JECFA concluded that the aspartame and acesulfame moieties in aspartame-acesulfame salt are covered by the acceptable daily intake (ADI) values previously established for aspartame and acesulfame-K (respectively 0-40 mg/kg body weight per day for aspartame and 0-15 mg/kg bodyweight per day for acesulfame-K).

The SCF's opinion from 2000 offers a similar conclusion, namely that the aspartame and acesulfame moieties in aspartame-acesulfame salt are covered by the acceptable daily intake (ADI) values previously established for aspartame and acesulfame-K (respectively 0-40 mg/kg body weight per day for aspartame and 0-9 mg/kg bodyweight per day for acesulfame-K).