



## President's statement

### AWAITING THE NEW EFSA OPINION ON PLANT SPECIES CONTAINING HAD

The scientific community and the industry eagerly await the publication by EFSA of the scientific opinion on botanical species containing Hydroxyanthracene derivatives (*Rheum palmatum* L., *Rheum officinale* Baill. and their hybrids, *Rhamnus purshiana* DC., *Rhamnus frangula* L. and *Cassia senna* L.) under Article 8, paragraph 4, of Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006 for the safety assessment of substances controlled by the Union in Part C of Annex III. This opinion, initially scheduled for January 20, 2024, and subsequently postponed on a monthly basis, should be published in May 2024.

In recent months, the scientific community has submitted a significant amount of data to EFSA, resulting from studies conducted according to the latest scientific protocols, demonstrating the safety of these botanical species and their derivatives for human health. These data diverge from the older ones on which was based the EFSA negative opinion of 2018 on *Aloe* spp.

We hope that the new EFSA scientific opinion will take into account all the scientific evidence now available without being conditioned by what has already been expressed previously, confirming the safety of the vegetal species and their derivatives under consideration for the intended uses, as already established by other authoritative European and international scientific entities.

Milan, 19 april 2024

The President  
Renato Iguera