With regard to the application pursuant to Article 4 (1) of the Regulation (EC) No 258/97 by Mag. Silvia Stadler, MBA, Goldsonne GmbH, for chia seeds (salvia hispanica) in fruit spreads, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Health and Women’s Affairs would like to inform you as follows:

The request has been assessed according to the procedure foreseen in Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 258/97. The initial assessment was carried out by the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety. No additional assessment as referred to in Article 6 (3) of the Regulation was required. Furthermore, no reasoned objection as referred to in Article 6 (4) of the Regulation has been presented by any Member State.

In view of this the Austrian Federal Ministry of Health and Women’s Affairs has decided that chia seeds (salvia hispanica) may be placed on the market as a novel food ingredient in fruit spreads (conditions of the decision as submitted in the Annex).
For the Minister:
Dr. Amire Mahmood

Enclosure:  Annex
Annex

The authorisation is subject to the following conditions of use:

1. Only chia seed (Salvia hispanica) which has already been authorised in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 258/97 concerning novel foods and novel food ingredients is used.

2. The quantity of chia seed (Salvia hispanica) added as an ingredient to fruit spreads does not exceed 1%.

3. The production process allows the seeds to swell sufficiently through heating.

4. Microbiological checks are carried out in the course of internal controls (HACCP).

5. The applicant monitors the potential for allergic reactions to chia seed (Salvia hispanica) and provides the contact details of a local food-allergy organisation.

6. The fruit spreads are marketed in transparent containers so that the chia seed (Salvia hispanica) is apparent.