



THE GOLD STANDARD

## PRUNES RECEIVE EFSA OPINION ON DIGESTIVE HEALTH CLAIM

The California Prune Industry has learnt today that EFSA has issued a further series of mass rejections for the majority of over 400 health claims for various foods. Amongst these, EFSA has issued an ‘unfavourable’ opinion regarding prunes and their contribution to bowel health, on the basis that insufficient evidence from human studies was available for assessment by EFSA’s panel on dietetic products, nutrition and allergies (NDA).

The California Prune Industry applauds the efforts of EFSA to bring order to the food industry and its health claims through its robust scientific assessment process. This news came as no surprise to the California Prune Industry, since the centuries held understanding of the beneficial contribution of prunes in normal bowel function has meant that formal research to demonstrate this benefit has until now not been required.

The California Prune Industry is not overly concerned by the findings on prunes and is in the process of compiling a revised dossier with new research to meet EFSA’s exacting standards. There is every confidence that it is only a matter of time before this traditional use for prunes will be supported by an approved health claim.

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