



## Puratos Chocolate USA – GMO Statement

August 8<sup>th</sup> 2017

To whom it may concern:

Puratos Chocolate USA uses only ingredients approved by the FDA and this could include ingredients derived from GMO crops. At the same time, in line with FDA, we have positioned in order not to claim our products GMO-Free because contamination by rDNA derived materials of our ingredients can occur through the entire food distribution chain, from cultivation, harvest and transport to storage and processing.

At the same time, we request GMO statements to all our suppliers to verify their positioning and to provide as much evidence as possible that non GMO sources derived ingredients are used.

To the best of our knowledge some ingredients like Chocolate liquors and its derivatives like cocoa butter and cocoa powders are not being grown using GMO's. Other ingredients like sugar coming from beet, based on the information received from our vendors, cannot be guaranteed to be free from GMO's.

Puratos Chocolate USA only purchases Sunflower Lecithin that has been tested PCR negative and/or is declared as Identity Preserved.

At the same time, we test on a yearly basis at least one of our chocolate products containing sunflower, beet sugar and other ingredients in order to check their GMO status, using an external certified laboratory. The PCR analysis report includes 35S / NOS Qualitative PCR analysis (limit of detection per Test Component 0.01%) obtaining negative as result in Sunflower and Sugar Beet gene components.

Puratos Chocolate USA offers Organic Chocolate Products where the use of genetic engineering, or genetically modified organisms (GMOs), is prohibited. Besides that, we could offer tailor made products made with pure cane sugar.

If there are any questions, please contact Puratos Chocolate USA.

Thank you for your interest in Puratos Chocolate USA products.

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