

# Myths and Truths about the U.S. Regulatory System: FDA

**Carrie McMahon, Ph.D.**

*Acting Biotechnology Team Lead*

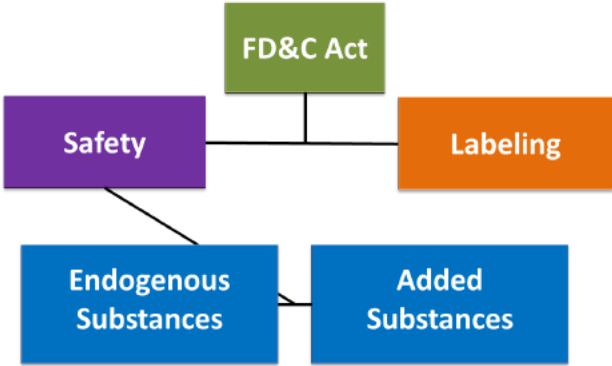
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Office of Food Additive Safety

*Specialty Crop Regulatory Assistance workshop (June 8, 2021)*



## Statutory Authority: food



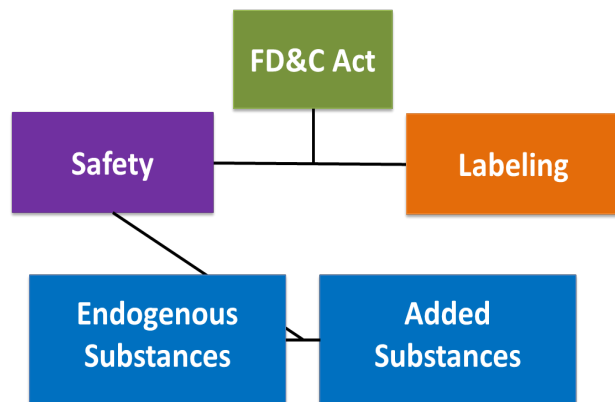
## Safety Assessment

- 1 Molecular characterization
- 2 Safety of new protein(s)
- 3 Safety of other new component(s)
- 4 Composition

## Consultation Process



## Statutory authority: food



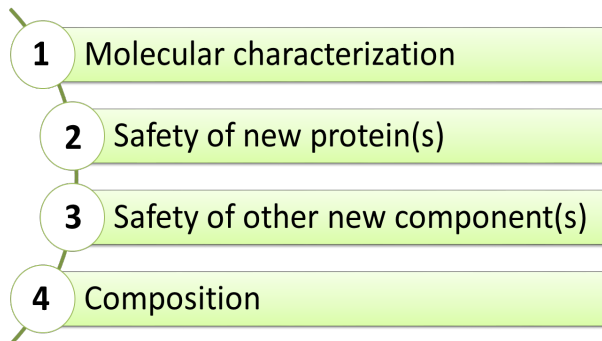
- FDA has broad authority to regulate food safety, with certain exceptions (USDA, EPA).
- FDA's authority applies to food produced using conventional methods and biotechnology.
- FDA has both pre-market and post-market authority.

## Consultation Process



- FDA's consultation process is voluntary; compliance with the FD&C Act is mandatory.
- A consultation is the developer's opportunity to tell their safety and regulatory story.
- FDA's evaluation of the developer's narrative is similar to peer-review of a science manuscript.

## Safety Assessment



- Safety assessments are based on a combination of scientific principles, published literature, and experimental data.
- Safety assessments are case-by-case.

## Resources for you



- **Websites**

- [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)
- [www.fda.gov/GEplantfoods](http://www.fda.gov/GEplantfoods)
- [www.fda.gov/bioconinventory](http://www.fda.gov/bioconinventory)
- <https://www.fda.gov/feedyourmind>



- **Contact FDA Plant Biotech**

- [PlantBiotech@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:PlantBiotech@fda.hhs.gov)



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG**  
ADMINISTRATION