



## CALL TO ACTION ON CARRAGEENAN

On May 3, 2013 the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) published an excellent Proposed Rule in the Federal Register on carrageenan. The Proposed Rule relisted carrageenan as an allowed substance in organic foods and specifically rejected the call to terminate or moderate the use of carrageenan. This was very good news but will be criticized and attacked in the comments.

**The USDA decision needs to be supported by all those who use carrageenan in organic products AND NON-ORGANIC PRODUCTS as carrageenan is under attack at both USDA and FDA.**

**The publication of the proposed rule establishes a 30-day period for stakeholders to file public comments. The deadline for filing comments to the docket is June 3, 2013.**

Therefore, please take a moment to send in a comment making the following points:

- We support the USDA decision on carrageenan and urge the Rule be finalized as Proposed.
- The UDSA Proposed Rule is based on sound science and consistent with the many studies done on carrageenan.
- Carrageenan is, indeed a non-synthetic product processed from seaweed that is suitable for use in processed organic foods products
- All international bodies that examine the use of carrageenan agree that it is safe and suitable for use in food.
- FDA has found carrageenan safe for general use in all food products.

To add your support by filing public comments electronically:

1. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions.
2. Choose "Submit a Comment"
3. Type the docket number, AMS-NOP-11-0003; NOP-10-13PR, and or Regulatory Information Number (RIN) 0581-AD13 into the search field
4. Click on "Submit a Comment"
5. Be sure to clearly indicate the topic (Carrageenan) and section number (205.605 (a)). You may wish to attach any information or published documents that directly support your position.

Please contact Sally Donner 202-518-6324 or Dick Crawford 630-841-7968 for more information.

*Marinalg International is a global association supporting the interests of seaweed farmers, consumers and the hydrocolloids industry. Marinalg's primary efforts include the delivery of sound science and technical expertise related to the safety and efficacy in the production and use of hydrocolloids from seaweed farms to family tables. Marinalg represents the regulatory interests of the seaweed-processing industry before various international bodies such as Codex Alimentarius, and national regulatory authorities including the European Food Safety Authority, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.*