The Novel Food Catalogue database, published in 2008 on the basis of the European Commission “Novel Food Working Group” and regularly updated, states that Ganoderma Lucidum “was on the market as a food or food ingredient and consumed to a significant degree before 15 May 1997. Thus its access to the market is not subject to the Novel Food Regulation (EC) No. 258/97. However, other specific legislation may restrict the placing on the market of this product as a food or food ingredient in some Member States. Therefore, it is recommended to check with the national competent authorities”.

Therefore, food containing Ganoderma Lucidum should not be considered as novel food.

In addition to the Catalogue, other evidences could demonstrate the consumption of food products containing Ganoderma Lucidum to a significant degree around the EU market, their safety for human consumption and their nutritional and health function.

Accordingly with the Novel Food Catalogue, food products containing Ganoderma Lucidum are regularly traded in EU Member State as:

- food (functional or not), complying with the Food information to consumers legislation (Directive 2000/13/CE, soon to be amended by Regulation EU No. 1169/2011) and the Health and Nutritional Claims Regulation (Regulation EC No. 1924/2006)

  or

- food supplements, where allowed by the National provisions on botanical ingredients which may be used (or which are avoided) in food supplements and/or where complying with any technical or procedural condition provided at national level.

The categorisation of food products containing Ganoderma Lucidum as foodstuffs or food supplements depends on the sensitiveness of Member States authorities on this issue. In the EU Countries officially opened by Organo Gold, the OG Black Coffee, the OG Latte, the OG Mocha, the OG Hot Chocolate and the OG Green Tea are categorised as foodstuffs.