

# Glucose

## Livestock

### Identification of Petitioned Substance

<b>Chemical Names:</b>	18	Dextrose Solution 50%
D-Glucose	19	<i>Contained in trade name products such as:</i>
D-Glucopyranose	20	Hydra-Lyte Electrolyte Replacement
D-Glc	21	Vitamins & Electrolytes "Plus" Oral Cal MPK
D-Glucopyranoside	22	
Glc		<b>CAS Numbers:</b>
		50-99-7 (D-(+)-Glucose)
		2280-44-6 (D-Glucose)
		54-17-1 (D-Glucose)
		77938-63-7 (D-Glucose monohydrate)
<b>Other Name:</b>		<b>Other Codes:</b>
Glucose		EINECS: 200-075-1
Dextrose		FDA UNII: 5SL0G7R0OK
Corn sugar		
Grape sugar		
<b>Trade Names:</b>		
Dextrose 50%		

### Summary of Petitioned Use

Glucose was included in the original National Organic Program (NOP) Final Rule in December 2000 (NOP, 2000). Glucose is currently listed within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) organic regulations at 7 CFR §205.603(a)(13) as a synthetic substance allowed for use as a medical treatment in organic livestock production. This technical report focuses on uses for glucose in organic livestock production, primarily to treat ketosis and for use in formulated electrolyte treatments.

Glucose is one of several materials produced through the biological or chemical breakdown of starch. Each of these materials is distinguished by the degree of starch hydrolysis, as well as by name and by CAS number. The term "glucose" in this report refers to refined dextrorotatory<sup>1</sup> glucose (D-glucose), though it is known in the glucose syrup industry as "dextrose" (BeMiller, 2009). Dextrose monohydrate is purified, crystalline D-glucose containing one molecule of water of crystallization per molecule of D-glucose, and anhydrous dextrose is purified, crystalline D-glucose without water of crystallization (BeMiller, 2009). Commercially, the term "glucose" can also refer to glucose *syrups* (e.g., CAS# 8029-43-4) or corn syrups. These products are not the same as refined D-glucose. Glucose syrups consist of a mixture of saccharides that result from incomplete hydrolysis of starch (BeMiller, 2009; Jackson, 1995). Another product of starch hydrolysis is maltodextrin (CAS# 9050-36-6). These related materials are not considered synonymous with glucose but may be discussed at times in this technical report.

This report serves to provide technical information to complement the 1995 Technical Advisory Panel Report on glucose for the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) to support the sunset review of glucose listed at 7 CFR §205.603(a)(13).

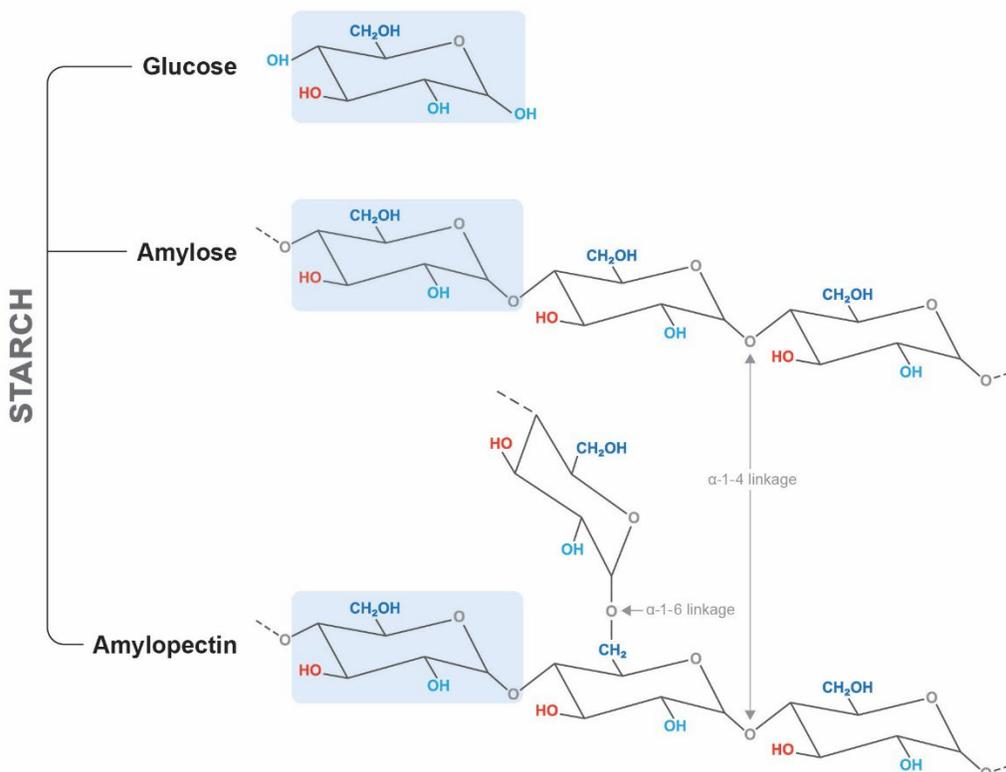
### Characterization of Petitioned Substance

#### **Composition of the Substance:**

Glucose (also known as dextrose) is a 6-carbon (hexose) sugar molecule, and is the primary sugar in most fruits and berries (Schenck, 2000). Glucose, like most other molecules, can exist in left and right-handed versions, called enantiomers (Chemistry LibreTexts, 2015). D-glucose (subsequently referred to simply as "glucose") occurs naturally and is used by living organisms as the primary source of energy for cellular

<sup>1</sup> A compound is dextrorotatory when it is capable of rotating polarized light in the clockwise direction (Chang, 2000).

55 respiration (Murphy et al., 2014). Glucose is often found naturally as a polymerized chain in materials such  
 56 as cellulose, starch, and other carbohydrates (see Figure 1, below). Glucose can bond to other glucose  
 57 molecules in different orientations. Some bond orientations are referred to as “alpha” ( $\alpha$ ), while others are  
 58 “beta” ( $\beta$ ). When glucose is connected via  $\alpha$ -1,4 bonds,<sup>2</sup> it forms amylose (Murphy et al., 2014).  
 59 Amylopectin is formed when additional glucose molecules are attached via  $\alpha$ -1,6 bonds (Murphy et al.,  
 60 2014). These molecules are the two main components of starch (Kearsley & Dziedzic, 1995; Murphy et al.,  
 61 2014; Schenck, 2000). If the hexose rings are connected through  $\beta$ -linkages, cellulose is the resulting polymer  
 62 (Schenck, 2000).  
 63



64

**Figure 1:** Chemical structure of glucose (A). Diagram also shows the two main components of starch:  $\alpha$ -1-4 linked glucose polymers (amylose) (B) and  $\alpha$ -1-4 and  $\alpha$ -1-6 linked glucose polymers (amylopectin) (C). Illustration modified from Muralikrishna & Nirmala (2005).

65

66 **Source or Origin of the Substance:**

67 Glucose is commercially produced through the hydrolysis of starches, most commonly from maize  
 68 (Jackson, 1995; Olsen, 1995; Schenck, 2000). Other sources of starch may include wheat, rice, potato, barley,  
 69 sago and sorghum, depending on the global production location (Schenck, 2000; Zainab et al., 2011). The  
 70 hydrolysis catalysts are typically enzymes, but also include acids (BeMiller, 2009; Jackson, 1995; Olsen,  
 71 1995; Schenck, 2000).

72

73 As mentioned, maize (*Zea mays* L.) is the major starch source worldwide, representing about 85% of  
 74 worldwide starch production (R. Zhang et al., 2021). United States is the biggest corn producer worldwide,  
 75 with a productive volume of over 345 million metric tons in 2019 (Shahbandeh, 2021). In the United States,  
 76 the production of glucose from corn starch increased from 483,000 tons in 1964 to 642,000 tons in 1992 and  
 77 reached 713,000 tons in 2019 (USDA-Economic Research Service, 2020).

78

<sup>2</sup> A bond is called “ $\alpha$ -1,4 bond” when the  $\alpha$ -hydroxyl functional group (-OH below the glucose ring) of the Carbon 1 (C1) of a glucose molecule bonds the  $\alpha$ -hydroxyl functional group of the Carbon 4 (C4) of another glucose molecule, producing water and creating an O-glycosidic (oxygen mediated) link.

79 The degree of hydrolysis of the starch is commonly defined as the dextrose equivalent (DE). Complete  
 80 hydrolysis of starch gives nearly pure glucose syrups or liquors. Crystalline glucose is produced from these  
 81 highly refined glucose (94-95%+) liquors (BeMiller, 2009; Schenck, 2000). The liquor is refined by  
 82 adsorption-separation chromatography,<sup>3</sup> demineralization, evaporation and then finally crystallization to  
 83 obtain either anhydrous dextrose (D-glucose) or dextrose monohydrate (D-glucose monohydrate)  
 84 (BeMiller, 2009), both of which are referred to as 'glucose' throughout this report.

85  
 86 See *Evaluation Question #2* for details regarding specific glucose manufacturing processes.

87  
 88 **Properties of the Substance:**

89 Glucose is odorless and sweet, and soluble or miscible with water (National Center of Biotechnology, 2021).  
 90 Glucose injectable solutions are available at different concentrations (e.g. 5%-50% glucose anhydrous  
 91 and/or glucose monohydrate) (FDA, 2021). Table 1 summarizes some of the chemical and physical  
 92 properties of glucose.

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 95

**Table 1: Properties of glucose**

Property	Value
Physical State and Appearance	Crystalline powder ( <i>α</i> -D-Glucose) <sup>b</sup>
Odor	Odorless <sup>a</sup>
Taste	Sweet <sup>a</sup>
Color	White <sup>a</sup>
Molecular Formula	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>b</sup>
Molecular Weight	180.16 <sup>b</sup>
Specific Gravity	1.56 <sup>b</sup>
pH	A 0.5 molar aqueous solution = 5.9 <sup>b</sup>
Solubility	Soluble <sup>b</sup>
pKa	12.92 at 0 °C <sup>b</sup>
Boiling Point	Greater than 212 °F at 760 mm Hg <sup>b</sup>
Melting Point	Less than 32 °F <sup>b</sup>
Critical Temperature	755 deg K (est) <sup>b</sup>
Vapor Pressure	8.0 × 10 <sup>-14</sup> mm Hg at 25 °C /extrapolated from a higher solid-phase temperature range <sup>b</sup>
Stability	Stable under proper storage conditions <sup>b</sup>
Reactivity	Weak reducing agent <sup>b</sup>

96 Source: a=(Schenck, 2000; Wilson et al., 1995), b=(National Center of Biotechnology, 2021)

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 99

**Specific Uses of the Substance:**

100 Glucose, in solution and in its crystalline form, is primarily used for food and pharmaceutical purposes in  
 101 the United States (Hull, 2010; Jackson, 1995; Macrae et al., 1993; Schenck, 2006). Glucose is used to treat

<sup>3</sup> Adsorption-separation chromatography is a technology used to separate two substances using the different affinity they have for a resin. When a sample passes through columns that contain the resin, the rate of diffusion of the components causes them to separate as they flow through it (Coskun, 2016; Purolite, 2021).

102 metabolic disorders such as hypoglycemia<sup>4</sup> (National Center of Biotechnology, 2021), as a component of  
103 certain products (e.g., electrolytes) and as an excipient (e.g., as a binder in oral tablets).

104  
105 Glucose is included at §205.603(a)(13) without annotation where its use is only restricted to medical  
106 treatments (as well as preventive management standards per 7 CFR §205.238). While it is allowed for  
107 livestock medical treatments beyond ketosis and dehydration, these two uses of the substance are the most  
108 common. Glucose is also a common component of electrolyte formulations, and is used as an excipient in  
109 livestock health care treatments

110  
111 *Ketosis treatment*

112 One of the primary uses of glucose in organic production is in the treatment of ketosis in ruminants.  
113 Ketosis is a metabolic disease that can occur shortly after parturition (labor and delivery) in ruminants due  
114 to an energy imbalance<sup>5</sup> related to the sudden onset of milk production (Duffield, 2000; Herdt, 2000). It is  
115 fatal if untreated. Subclinical ketosis is defined as an increase of ketone bodies<sup>6</sup> in the blood, urine, or milk,  
116 in absence of obvious clinical signs of disease (G. Zhang & Ametaj, 2020). Its primary feature is elevated  
117 levels of ketones in the animal's blood stream (Andersson, 1988; Duffield, 2000). Clinical ketosis also  
118 presents elevated levels of ketones; in addition it includes loss of appetite, decreased milk production, and  
119 loss of body condition (David Baird, 1982; Herdt, 2000). Both clinical and subclinical ketosis are also  
120 associated with increased levels of non-esterified fatty acids (NEFA) and decreased levels of blood glucose  
121 (Herdt, 2000; Mann et al., 2017). The hypoglycemic hypothesis states that alterations of glucose and lipid  
122 metabolism are associated with the development of ketosis, decreased level of glucose being one of the  
123 major changes in affected animals (G. Zhang & Ametaj, 2020). Hypoglycemia can occur when the liver is  
124 not able to produce enough glucose to meet the demands of the postpartum ruminant. Low concentrations  
125 of blood glucose are associated with low concentrations of insulin (hypoinsulinemia), which triggers the  
126 mobilization of fatty acids from adipose tissue (lipolysis), thereby increasing ketone body formation (G.  
127 Zhang & Ametaj, 2020). Excessive lipolysis can lead to ketosis (G. Zhang & Ametaj, 2020). Ketosis can be  
128 monitored by measuring the amount of  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate (BHB), a ketone containing molecule, in the  
129 animal's blood (Gerloff, 2000; Gordon et al., 2013). Glucose is often given to ruminants through an  
130 intravenous injection to replace the depleted, naturally occurring blood glucose. The replacement glucose  
131 serves as an energy supplement when the animal experiences negative energy balance and the nutritional  
132 demand of producing milk outstrips the dry matter intake the animal consumes (Herdt, 2000; Mann et al.,  
133 2017).

134  
135 Ketosis is also discussed in detail within the 2021 *Propylene Glycol* Technical Report (USDA, 2021).

136  
137 *Neonatal hypoglycemia treatment*

138 Immature neonates and neonate ruminants can become hypoglycemic because of underdeveloped  
139 gluconeogenic mechanisms, if they do not ingest adequate amounts of colostrum and milk (Klein et al.,  
140 2002). In cases of neonatal hypoglycemia, the immediate treatment consists of the intravenous or  
141 intraperitoneal administration of a glucose solution. Under-nurtured neonatal calves and  
142 immunosuppressed animals are predisposed to colisepticemia (invasion of the blood stream by coliform  
143 bacteria). Animals affected by this disease are usually treated by the intravenous administration of large  
144 volumes of balanced electrolyte solutions over several hours; fluids should include glucose to correct  
145 hypoglycemia (Walter, 2020).

146  
147 *Formulated oral electrolyte solutions and rehydration therapies*

148 Glucose helps facilitate sodium transport within the intestines (Naylor, 1990). Because of this, it is a key  
149 ingredient in oral rehydration therapies to treat dehydration in young ruminants. Calves, lambs, kids, and  
150 swine are most likely to benefit from oral electrolyte solutions. Neonatal diarrhea (scours) remains the most  
151 common cause of death in beef and dairy calves (Smith, 2009). Young livestock often experience

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<sup>4</sup> An abnormally diminished content of glucose in the blood (Rozance & Hay, 2010).

<sup>5</sup> An imbalance between the energy that enters into the body as feed (dry-matter intake) and the energy that is released from the body in the form of milk (G. Zhang & Ametaj, 2020).

<sup>6</sup> ketone bodies are hydroxybutyrate (OHB), acetoacetate (AcAc), and acetone (Ac) and can be found in the blood, urine, and milk of cows in ketosis (G. Zhang & Ametaj, 2020).

152 dehydration due to diarrhea following an infection by *E. coli* or cryptosporidium (Naylor, 1999). This  
153 causes the animals to expel (rather than absorb) the large amounts of fluid that is secreted in the small  
154 intestine. Regardless of the pathogen and mechanism involved, diarrhea increases the loss of electrolytes  
155 and water in the feces of calves, and decreases milk intake, resulting in dehydration and negative energy  
156 balance (Smith, 2009). Diarrhea is by far the most common indication for fluid therapy in neonatal calves.  
157 Oral electrolyte solutions have classically been used to replace fluid losses, correct acid-base and electrolyte  
158 abnormalities, and provide nutritional support (Smith, 2009).

159  
160 Oral electrolyte solutions were developed in the twentieth century as a treatment for cholera infections.  
161 The original World Health Organization (WHO) electrolyte was based on a formulation that contained an  
162 approximately equimolar mixture of sodium (990 mmol/ L) and glucose (2%), potassium, glycine and  
163 bicarbonate (Smith, 2009). Although much research has been done on oral fluid therapy since that time, the  
164 formulation of oral fluids has not moved far from the original (Smith, 2009). Commonly recommended oral  
165 rehydration solutions contain 75 mmol to 139 mmol/L of glucose (Reid & Losek, 2009).

#### 166 *Excipient*

167  
168 Glucose is a common excipient ingredient in livestock health care products (OMRI, 2021), and meets the  
169 annotation for excipients used in drugs and biologics used to treat organic livestock at §205.603(f)(1).

#### 170 *Other uses*

171  
172 As an ingredient, glucose is generally recognized as safe (GRAS) by the U.S. FDA (21 CFR 184.1857)  
173 without limitation when used in food. Glucose monohydrate (usually referred to as dextrose monohydrate)  
174 is highly valued as an ingredient in confectionery applications (Jackson, 1995). It is important for preserves.  
175 At any given concentration, a dextrose solution contains almost twice as many dissolved molecules as a  
176 sucrose solution, and therefore a solution of glucose exerts a greater osmotic pressure than a sucrose  
177 solution (Jackson, 1995), aiding with the osmotic dehydration. Glucose is also a valuable ingredient in  
178 powdered sherbet centers, lemonade powders, chewing gum, compressed tablets and fondant (Jackson,  
179 1995). It is also sometimes used in brewing (Schenck, 2000).

180  
181 Glucose is used in the production of microbially-derived products, such as citric, lactic, and acetic acids, as  
182 well as enzymes, vitamin C, and antibiotics (Schenck, 2000). It is also used in producing fuel ethanol,  
183 plastics, insulating foam, and adhesives (Schenck, 2000). Glucose is used in conventional livestock feeds as  
184 an appetite stimulant due to its sweet flavor (Precision Feed Technologies, LLC, 2021; Stock Show Secrets,  
185 2022; Aspen Veterinary Resources, Ltd., 2021)..

186  
187 Anhydrous glucose (anhydrous dextrose) is used for intravenous injections in humans for various  
188 pharmaceutical and medicinal preparation (Fellers, 1939). In the pharmaceutical industry, glucose is found  
189 as both an active ingredient, and as an excipient (inactive ingredient). Glucose injectable solutions are used  
190 as a source of water and calories for patients that required intravenous nutrition (FDA, 2021). As an  
191 excipient, glucose has widespread use as a sweetener, reducing agent, bulking agent and soluble carrier for  
192 an active pharmaceutical ingredient (Srivastava et al., 2016).

#### 193 **Approved Legal Uses of the Substance:**

##### 194 *Food and Drug Administration (FDA)*

195  
196 D-glucose appears in the “Corn sugar” listing at 21 CFR 184.1857. It is considered a substance that, when  
197 added directly to human food, is generally recognized as safe (GRAS). Glucose sirup (also spelled “syrup”)  
198 is found under the “Corn Syrup” listing (21 CFR 184.1865) and under the sweeteners and table sirups  
199 section (21 CFR 168.120). Corn sugar and corn syrup are allowed as food ingredients with no limitation  
200 other than current good manufacturing practice; glucose syrup is allowed also as a sweetener and table  
201 syrup (21 CFR 168.120).

##### 202 *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*

203  
204 Dextrose and corn syrup appear on the 2004 EPA List 4A as inert ingredients of minimal risk (USA EPA,  
205 2004). “D-glucose,” “Corn syrup” and “syrups, corn, dehydrated” are also considered to fall under the  
206

207 category of “commodity inert”, and are therefore approved for food and non-food pesticidal use as inert  
208 (US EPA, 2004).

209

210 **Action of the Substance:**

211 *Hypoglycemia and ketosis treatment*

212 When delivered intravenously, glucose provides an immediate supply of sugars to the blood stream and  
213 effectively treats nervous ketosis,<sup>7</sup> the most severe form of the disease (Gordon et al., 2013). Because  
214 glucose is immediately bioavailable to ruminants, its effects are not long-lasting (Wagner & Schimek, 2010).  
215 Glucose provides less than 12 hours of suppression of BHB, a ketone often used as a marker for ketosis,  
216 and only one treatment of 500 mL or 1 L of 50 percent glucose is unlikely to prevent or resolve ketosis in a  
217 dairy cow (Wagner & Schimek, 2010). Dairy cows may need follow-up treatment when using glucose  
218 because each dose is effective for less than 12 hours (Herdt & Emery, 1992). Oral administration of glucose  
219 to sheep is possible, but research suggests that sheep may not successfully absorb the needed amount of  
220 glucose through their rumen (Sargison, 2007).

221  
222 Gordon et al. 2013 observes that dextrose (glucose) should be considered a second-line treatment for cases  
223 of ketosis. The treatment with dextrose should be used in animals with severe ketonemia and concurrent  
224 hypoglycemia suffering from nervous signs (abnormal licking, chewing on pipes or concrete, gait  
225 abnormalities, and aggression). These animals should then receive additional other treatments for longer-  
226 term effectiveness (Gordon et al., 2013).

227

228 *Dehydration treatment*

229 Glucose can be co-transported with sodium from the intestinal lumen to the inside of the enterocyte at the  
230 brush border membrane (special epithelium found in some tissues, like the intestine) (Smith, 2009). At the  
231 basolateral membrane, specific transmembrane enzymes actively pump sodium ions out of the cell, thus  
232 raising the intercellular osmolality (Smith, 2009). This increase in intercellular osmolality then draws more  
233 water from the intestinal lumen through the tight junctions between cells, thereby expanding extracellular  
234 fluid volume and rehydrating the animal (Smith, 2009).

235

236 **Combinations of the Substance:**

237 Glucose is commercially available in two forms – in diluted liquid solutions and in a crystalline powder.  
238 Some products contain hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide for pH adjustment (VetOne®, 2022). Aside  
239 from that, intravenous dextrose (glucose) is formulated with sterile water.

240

241 In the case of oral electrolytes, some products may be formulated with glucose, certain salts in the form of  
242 ions – sodium, potassium, chloride, acetate, citrate, etc., and amino acids to aid with the hydration process.  
243 Sometimes preservatives like citric acid or propionic acid are included as part of the formulation. Other  
244 substances may be added to enrich products and improve the nutritional intake of the treated livestock. For  
245 example, some products may be enriched with vitamins, microorganisms, and/or amino acids like glycine  
246 (Agri Laboratories, Ltd., 2022). Whether amino acids are needed in addition to glucose in oral electrolyte  
247 solutions is not well understood; however, the addition of glycine does seem to further improve water  
248 absorption in the intestine (Smith, 2009).

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<b>Status</b>
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252 **Historic Use:**

253 *Ketosis treatment*

254 Ketosis as a disorder in cattle has been known since at least 1849 (McSherry et al., 1960). In 1928, Hupka  
255 noted that administering glucose helped alleviate symptoms of ketosis (McSherry et al., 1960). Since the  
256 1930s, glucose has been considered a staple to treat hypoglycemia associated with ketosis (Gordon et al.,  
257 2013).

258

<sup>7</sup> Nervous ketosis is marked by signs that may include excitement and hyperesthesia, depraved chewing and licking (occasionally with self-mutilation), or abnormal gait (including hypermetria or ataxia) (Gerloff, 2000).

259 Glucose was studied extensively in the 1940s and 1950s, but researchers relied on studies where all affected  
260 animals were given the same treatment, and no controls were used for comparison (Gordon et al., 2013).  
261 According to Gordon et al., as of 2013, glucose has never been studied in a randomized clinical trial to  
262 determine efficacy as a standard treatment for ketosis.

263  
264 Mann et al. (2013) found that treating cattle with a combination of glucose and propylene glycol reduced  
265 BHB more than either substance alone. Capel et al. (2021) also investigated the effect of intravenous glucose  
266 treatment combined with oral propylene glycol therapy on the resolution of lactating cow's  
267 hyperketonemia by assessing the levels of blood BHB. In contrast to what Mann et al. found, the addition  
268 of glucose for 1 to 3 days provided no improvement in resolution of ketosis.

#### 269 *Dehydration treatment*

271 Oral electrolyte solutions became widely commercially available in the early 1970s and gained rapid  
272 acceptance in the treatment of diarrheic animals (Naylor, 1990). Oral electrolytes continue to be the  
273 hallmark of routine therapy for treating neonatal calf diarrhea (Smith, 2009). Glucose is present in various  
274 concentrations in virtually all commercially available oral electrolyte solutions (Smith, 2009). In addition to  
275 the treatment of sick neonatal calves, fluids and electrolytes are used in sick ruminants to correct  
276 imbalances of acid-base, electrolyte, or water, and to optimize tissue blood flow, provide nutrients, or treat  
277 shock (Constable, 2003).

#### 278 **Organic Foods Production Act, USDA Final Rule:**

280 The NOSB recommended including glucose on the National List in 1995 as a synthetic material allowed for  
281 use in livestock medical treatments. The National Organic Program currently allows glucose at 7 CFR  
282 §205.603(a)(13) for use as a disinfectant, sanitizer, and medical treatment as applicable. As a medical  
283 treatment, glucose is limited to use after the onset of illness by 7 CFR 205.238(c)(2).

#### 284 **International**

##### 285 *Canadian General Standards Board Permitted Substances List*

287 The Canadian General Standards Board includes glucose on CAN/CGSB 32.311-2020 Table 5.3 (Health  
288 Care Products and Production Aids) without annotation. Table 5.3 also includes a listing for "Formulants  
289 (inerts, excipients)," allowing glucose to be used as an excipient ingredient with a permitted active  
290 ingredient. CAN/CGSB 32.310-2020 6.6.2 prohibits the use of veterinary drugs in the absence of illness.

##### 291 *CODEX Alimentarius Commission, Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of 292 Organically Produced Foods (GL 32-1999)*

294 The CODEX guidelines state in Annex 1, Part B "Health Care" that producers must first prevent disease  
295 through the selection of appropriate breeds, use of high-quality feed, and access to pasture and exercise,  
296 among other preventive principles. If these management practices are not enough to prevent disease, a  
297 producer may use allopathic<sup>8</sup> veterinary drugs if phytotherapeutic products are ineffective. Glucose is not  
298 explicitly mentioned as a health care substance, but it is included in allopathic veterinary drugs and  
299 therefore allowed based on the definition at Section 2.2 of the guidelines.

##### 300 *European Economic Community (EEC) Council Regulation, EC No. 834/2007 and 889/2008*

302 Title II, Chapter 2, Section 4 of the EC No. 889/2008 focuses on disease prevention and veterinary  
303 treatment. Article 24, paragraph 3 requires producers to use preventive measure to ensure animal health,  
304 and also allows producers to use veterinary medicinal products if prevention or phytotherapeutic products  
305 fail. Glucose is included in veterinary medicinal products, and therefore would be allowed under EEC  
306 regulations. Article 24, paragraph 5 requires that organically produced foodstuffs from treated animals be  
307 withheld from the stream of commerce for twice the legal withdrawal period or at least 48 hours.

##### 308 *Japan Agricultural Standard (JAS) for Organic Production*

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<sup>8</sup> Allopathy was coined in 1810 by German physician Samuel Hahnemann to designate the usual (western) practice of medicine. Allopathic medicine focuses on signs and symptoms of the diseases, identifying the pathology behind the disease and treating them with drugs, surgery, etc. (Parajuli & Sanjib, 2021).

310 Article 4 of the Japanese Agricultural Standard for Organic Livestock includes the “Health control” section,  
311 specifying practices for organic livestock production. The standard requires that producers implement  
312 preventive practices before using veterinary drugs, and veterinary drugs may only be used for therapeutic  
313 purposes. Again, glucose is included within veterinary drugs and may therefore be allowed under the JAS.  
314 A withdrawal period is noted. It must be 48 hours from the last administration of drugs to slaughter for  
315 foods, milking, and egg collection, or twice the period of drug withdrawal defined by Articles 14-1, 9, 4,  
316 and 6 of the Pharmaceutical Law for the approval of drugs, change of approvals, reexamination of drugs,  
317 and drug efficacy review, whichever is longer.

318  
319 *IFOAM – Organics International*

320 Section 5.6 of the IFOAM Standard for Organic Production and Processing describes the requirements for  
321 the use of veterinary medicine in organic livestock production. Section 5.6.1 requires that producers  
322 establish preventive practices, including good quality feed and access to the outdoors, to avoid illness in  
323 their livestock before using synthetic allopathic veterinary medical products. Glucose, when used to  
324 address dehydration and ketosis symptoms in livestock, would be considered a synthetic allopathic  
325 veterinary medical product, and Exception (c) would allow its use under veterinary supervision with a  
326 minimum withdrawal period of at least 14 days. Prophylactic use of synthetic allopathic veterinary drugs  
327 is prohibited.

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### Evaluation Questions for Substances to be used in Organic Crop or Livestock Production

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333 **Evaluation Question #1: Indicate which category in OFPA that the substance falls under: (A) Does the**  
334 **substance contain an active ingredient in any of the following categories: copper and sulfur**  
335 **compounds, toxins derived from bacteria; pheromones, soaps, horticultural oils, fish emulsions, treated**  
336 **seed, vitamins and minerals; livestock parasiticides and medicines and production aids including**  
337 **netting, tree wraps and seals, insect traps, sticky barriers, row covers, and equipment cleansers? (B) Is**  
338 **the substance a synthetic inert ingredient that is not classified by the EPA as inerts of toxicological**  
339 **concern (i.e., EPA List 4 inerts) (7 U.S.C. § 6517(c)(1)(B)(ii)? Is the synthetic substance an inert**  
340 **ingredient which is not on EPA List 4, but is exempt from a requirement of a tolerance, per 40 CFR part**  
341 **180?**

342

343 (A) Glucose is used as an active ingredient in livestock medicines.

344 (B) Glucose is a 2004 EPA List 4A inert ingredient of minimal risk (US EPA, 2004). Furthermore, dextrose  
345 (D-glucose; CAS No. 50-99-7) and dextrose monohydrate (D-glucose monohydrate; CAS No. 77938-63-7)  
346 are also considered “commodity inerts” that are exempt from the requirement of a tolerance at 40 CFR  
347 §180.950(a)(i) (US EPA, 2020).

348

349 **Evaluation Question #2: Describe the most prevalent processes used to manufacture or formulate the**  
350 **petitioned substance. Further, describe any chemical change that may occur during manufacture or**  
351 **formulation of the petitioned substance when this substance is extracted from naturally occurring plant,**  
352 **animal, or mineral sources (7 U.S.C. § 6502 (21)).**

353

354 Manufacturers produce glucose using these basic chemical and physical steps: hydrolysis, clarification,  
355 color removal, evaporation, and crystallization (for crystalline dextrose, or glucose, production). Currently,  
356 manufacturers produce crystalline glucose products from acid-enzyme and enzyme-hydrolyzed glucose  
357 syrups (Schenck, 2000). In the past, glucose was obtained from acid-hydrolyzed syrups.

358 Corn starch slurry obtained through the wet milling process is usually the starting material for glucose  
359 production. The pH of the starch slurry is adjusted to 6.0 and calcium ions (usually in the form of calcium  
360 chloride) may be added in order to stabilize or improve the efficiency of the enzymes (Schenck, 2000).

361 When preparing the initial starch slurry, sulfur dioxide may be added in order to minimize bacterial  
362 colonization and to block the Maillard reaction (the reaction of proteins with reducing sugars, which  
363 produces colors) (Hull, 2010).

#### 364 *Enzymatic hydrolysis:*

365 Using the enzymatic hydrolysis process, starch is hydrolyzed by the addition of high-temperature stable  
366 enzymes. Using direct steam injection or some other method, the starch slurry with enzymes is heated to  
367 approximately 105 °C in order to liquefy it (Schenck, 2000). The pH and other conditions might be  
368 readjusted, and more enzyme(s) may be added for starch hydrolysis (saccharification) (Hull, 2010; Macrae  
369 et al., 1993; Olsen, 1995).

370 To process starch into glucose, four main type of enzymes are used:  $\alpha$ -amylase,  $\beta$ -amylase, glucoamylase  
371 and pullulanase (BeMiller, 2009). The enzyme  $\alpha$ -amylase is one of the most important enzymes used in the  
372 food industry, and these enzymes account for approximately 25% of the world enzyme market (de Souza  
373 & Oliveira Magalhães, 2010). They hydrolyze the  $\alpha$ -1,4-glycosidic linkages of the starch polysaccharide.  
374 Thermostable (heat-stable)  $\alpha$ -amylases are desirable because liquefaction and saccharification of starch are  
375 performed at high temperatures (de Souza & Oliveira Magalhães, 2010; Hull, 2010; Reddy et al., 2003).

376 Industrially, saccharification is predominantly carried out by  $\alpha$ -amylases from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*,  
377 *Bacillus licheniformis*, or *Bacillus stearothermophilus* (Bilal & Iqbal, 2020). The commercial  $\alpha$ -amylases are  
378 produced by fermentations of genetically modified bacteria, where the native gene has been manipulated  
379 to code for an enzyme with improved performance characteristics, such as heat stability (Nielsen, 2012;  
380 University of Reading NCBE, 2018; DuPont Industrial Biosciences, 2015; Olempska-Bier, 2004; Silano et al.,  
381 2018).

#### 382 *Acid hydrolysis:*

383 Acid hydrolysis may be used to partially hydrolyze the starch slurry before further enzyme hydrolysis, as  
384 well as to make 35 and 42 DE (dextrose equivalent) finished glucose syrups. In the acid conversion process,  
385 a starch slurry is acidified (usually with hydrochloric acid) to a pH of about 2 and pumped to a vessel  
386 where it is heated and pressurized. This process partially hydrolyzes the starch slurry. After hydrolysis, the  
387 slurry is neutralized (usually with sodium carbonate) to a pH 4.5-4.8, which causes proteins and lipids to  
388 precipitate.

389 When the end product is a glucose syrup, the slurry is then purified by centrifugation, skimming and/or  
390 passing through deep tanks to remove impurities (solids, fats, proteins, oils and fine fibers), and then  
391 filtered. The product is clarified using granular activated carbon to further remove impurities, and then  
392 concentrated by evaporation. The resulting syrup is polished through further clarification and  
393 decolorization. Finally, the syrup is concentrated again in evaporators to the final required density. Some  
394 syrups are treated with ion exchange resins for further refinement (Hull, 2010; Macrae et al., 1993;  
395 Mironescu & Mironescu, 2006).

#### 396 *Acid-enzyme process:*

397 The combination of acid and enzymes is used to produce high glucose syrups such as D.95 (95% glucose).  
398 The starch slurry is only partially converted by acid to a given DE The temperature and acidity of the  
399 slurry are adjusted to the optimal conditions required by the specific enzyme or enzymes to be used during  
400 the saccharification process, where the starch is broken down into monosaccharides. The DE is monitored  
401 and the conversion processes stopped when the desired sugar composition is reached. The syrup is  
402 centrifuged, filtered, clarified with activated carbon and ion exchange treatment, polished, and evaporated  
403 as needed (Hull, 2010; Macrae et al., 1993; Olsen, 1995). Glucoamylase (also known as amyloglucosidase or  
404 AMG) is used after the acid hydrolysis and the conversion is mediated by  $\alpha$ -amylase (Hull, 2010).

#### 405 406 *Purification:*

407 Glucose monohydrate crystals are produced through the crystallization of 95 DE syrups inside crystallizers  
408 (large horizontal, cylindrical batch tanks) (BeMiller, 2009). Inside these tanks, the syrup is cooled to achieve

409 the proper level of supersaturation (temperature and concentration conditions required for the crystals to  
410 precipitate), and subsequently to achieve the crystallization of glucose in its monohydrated form (BeMiller,  
411 2009). The crop of crystals is then washed and centrifuged in basket centrifuges to remove the remaining  
412 liquor, which may be reprocessed to yield a second crop of crystals (BeMiller, 2009). Crystals are then dried  
413 with a stream of hot air, cooled, and stored. Throughout this purification process a product containing  
414 99.9% dextrose can be obtained (Hull, 2010). Anhydrous dextrose is produced by dissolving the  
415 monohydrate in hot purified water and refining it again (BeMiller, 2009).

416  
417 During the purification and crystallization steps to make glucose, the enzymes are typically removed.  
418 Absence of the  $\alpha$ -amylase protein in the final (purified) sweetener syrup has been confirmed  
419 experimentally (Pronk & Leclercq, 2004). In addition, governmental and international organizations such as  
420 the FDA and the World Health Organization (WHO) through the International Program on Chemical  
421 Safety (IPCS) have observed that these enzymes are GRAS and Allowable Daily Intake (ADI) not specified,  
422 respectively (Pronk & Leclercq, 2004).

423  
424 **Evaluation Question #3: Discuss whether the petitioned substance is formulated or manufactured by a**  
425 **chemical process, or created by naturally occurring biological processes (7 U.S.C. § 6502 (21)).**  
426

427 Glucose is produced naturally through photosynthesis and is stored in plants in the form of starch, a  
428 polymer made from glucose. Current industrial processes use a combination of biological, chemical and  
429 physical tools to obtain purified glucose. These processes yield products that can be  $\geq 99.5\%$  pure.

430 Glucose is classified<sup>9</sup> as a synthetic substance when acid hydrolysis and acid/enzyme hydrolysis are used  
431 in the production, but as a nonsynthetic material when the production is achieved through enzyme  
432 hydrolysis.

433  
434 Commercially available products using glucose can be formulated with synthetic substances. Some  
435 products such as intravenous dextrose solutions are diluted in water to achieved desired concentrations.  
436 These injectable solutions may contain hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide for pH adjustment. In the  
437 case of oral electrolytes, these types of products may be formulated with glucose, certain salts in the form  
438 of ions – sodium, magnesium, etc., and amino acids to aid with the hydration process, and sometimes  
439 preservatives like citric acid or propionic acid are included as part of the formulation.

440  
441 **Evaluation Question #4: Describe the persistence or concentration of the petitioned substance and/or its**  
442 **by-products in the environment (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (2)).**  
443

444 Glucose and glucose-containing compounds are naturally abundant in the environment. Generally  
445 speaking, sugars such as glucose are the most abundant organic compounds in the biosphere because they  
446 are the basic components of all polysaccharides (chitin, cellulose, hemicellulose, starch, pectin, etc.)  
447 (Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015).

448 Glucose is an easily metabolized substance (Brosnan, 1999; Murphy et al., 2014). Its use as an animal drug  
449 is not expected to contribute to significant quantities in the environment. However, when glucose is given  
450 to animals, some may be excreted in urine. For example, when glucose was given intravenously to healthy  
451 cows, 13 to 26% of the glucose was excreted in the urine, depending on the total quantity given (Metzner et  
452 al., 1993). Soil systems with active microbes should easily consume these amounts of glucose (in a matter of  
453 hours to days, depending in the type of soil) if present in the excreted urine of treated animals as shown by  
454 the studies performed by Ferreira et al. 2013, Padmanabhan et al. 2003 and Gunina et al. 2015. For more  
455 information regarding these studies, refer to *Evaluation Question #8*.

456

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<sup>9</sup> Considering the Decision Tree for Classification of Materials as Synthetic or Nonsynthetic in NOP  
Guidance 5033-1,

457 **Evaluation Question #5: Describe the toxicity and mode of action of the substance and of its**  
458 **breakdown products and any contaminants. Describe the persistence and areas of concentration in the**  
459 **environment of the substance and its breakdown products (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (2)).**

460 Glucose is an important biomolecule that has very low toxicity. According to several safety data sheets, the  
461 oral LD<sub>50</sub> in rats is 25800 mg/kg (DHI Milieu Ltd., 2008; Fisher Science Education, 2015; Hach Company,  
462 2005). When glucose is metabolized through aerobic respiration, the breakdown products are water and  
463 CO<sub>2</sub> (Murphy et al., 2014). Plants and cyanobacteria recycle CO<sub>2</sub> and water back into glucose via  
464 photosynthesis (Galant et al., 2015). Glucose typically persists in the environment within polymers such as  
465 chitin and cellulose (Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015).

466  
467 **Evaluation Question #6: Describe any environmental contamination that could result from the**  
468 **petitioned substance's manufacture, use, misuse, or disposal (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (3)).**  
469

470 The major environmental impacts associated with the production of starch, from which glucose is derived,  
471 occur during the agricultural stages that produce the starch-containing material used for glucose  
472 production (e.g., potato, maize, wheat, and cassava) (Blanco-Cejas et al., 2020). The agricultural stages  
473 usually involve intensive consumption of natural resources such as land occupation and transformation,  
474 use of fertilizers and pesticides, depletion of fossil fuels for machinery, etc. (Blanco-Cejas et al., 2020).

475  
476 The results of a life cycle assessment<sup>10</sup> (LCA) for glucose ascribe 60-96% of the generated impact to the  
477 production of the starch (Blanco-Cejas et al., 2020). Previous studies noted that 70% of the environmental  
478 footprint of glucose production is generated by the starch manufacture (Blanco-Cejas et al., 2020).

479  
480 The impact to produce 1000 kg of glucose from corn (100% DM) was quantified by Renouf et al. (2008) at  
481 6000 MJ of energy input; 1000 kg CO<sub>2eq</sub> for global warming; 8.5 kg SO<sub>4eq</sub> for acidification and 2.8 kg PO<sub>4eq</sub>  
482 for eutrophication potential (Kis et al., 2019; Renouf et al., 2008). By comparison, Renouf et al. (2008) note  
483 that glucose from sugar cane is more sustainable than corn-derived glucose in terms of energy input,  
484 greenhouse gas emissions and possibly acidification potential. Kis et al. 2019 noted that inverted liquid  
485 sugar has lower carbon and water footprints than glucose and fructose syrups and derivatives (by 38% and  
486 95%, respectively), and its production requires less fossil energy (by 31%) and less agricultural land (by  
487 67%). After evaluating an LCA for EU starch manufacturing plants, Vercauteren et al. (2012) noted that the  
488 starch industry typically causes little waste production because all side streams are used to produce useful  
489 products that have an economic value; waste sent to landfill or incineration is almost nonexistent. Glucose  
490 is one of the side stream products of the starch industry and, as a livestock medical treatment, it is unlikely  
491 to contaminate the environment. Contamination related to the disposal of this product represents a  
492 negligible risk to the environment.

493  
494 **Evaluation Question #7: Describe any known chemical interactions between the petitioned substance**  
495 **and other substances used in organic crop or livestock production or handling. Describe any**  
496 **environmental or human health effects from these chemical interactions (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (1)).**  
497

498 Glucose may interact aggressively with strong oxidizing agents and can produce toxic gases when  
499 combusted (Hach Company, 2005), however these reactions are unlikely to happen in the utility context of  
500 livestock medicine. For environmental effects that the glucose may have, please review *Evaluation Question*  
501 *#4*. For human health and glucose metabolism, please review *Evaluation Question #3*. Glucose is unlikely to  
502 cause serious damage to producers.

503  
504 **Evaluation Question #8: Describe any effects of the petitioned substance on biological or chemical**  
505 **interactions in the agro-ecosystem, including physiological effects on soil organisms (including the salt**  
506 **index and solubility of the soil), crops, and livestock (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (5)).**

---

<sup>10</sup> A life cycle assessment (LCA) is a method to analyze the environmental impacts of a product. An LCA quantifies the potential environmental effects of a product over its entire life cycle, meaning that the extraction of raw materials, the production of the materials and the product, the use and the end-of-life treatment are taken into account (Vercauteren et al., 2012).

507  
508 Glucose is a universal fuel for cellular metabolism. Glucose in the environment is captured rapidly by  
509 microbes where it is used for maintenance and growth (Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015). Glucose addition to the  
510 soil has been utilized as a strategy for measuring the respiratory response of the soil microbial community  
511 (Ferreira et al., 2013). Glucose labeled  $^{14}\text{C}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  are often used to perform biodegradation assays that  
512 measure the microbial activity of water and soil samples. Soil microbes can mineralize<sup>11</sup> glucose added to  
513 the soil (at 7 percent) within the first 8 hours of exposure (Padmanabhan et al., 2003).

514 Gunina & Kuzyakov (2015) estimated the sugar C mineralization to  $\text{CO}_2$  using a literature review of 74 data  
515 points collected from 16 studies on glucose  $^{14}\text{C}$  or  $^{13}\text{C}$  decomposition within the first 24 h after its addition  
516 into the soil. The calculations performed showed that the estimated maximum glucose C decomposition  
517 rate to  $\text{CO}_2$  was 1.1 percent  $\text{min}^{-1}$  (Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015). At this high rate, half of the glucose C  
518 should be mineralized to  $\text{CO}_2$  within the first hour (Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015). This study also shows that  
519 the time of glucose duration as a whole molecule during microbial metabolism is much shorter than 30  
520 min (Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015).

521 Ferreria et al. (2013) demonstrated that soil systems with no tillage use more carbon than systems with  
522 tillage, and that the microbes in these kinds of systems can consume up to 2000 mg of glucose  $\text{kg}^{-1}$  dry soil  
523 after 24 h of incubation.

524  
525 In aquatic environments, glucose alone can support 20-30 percent of bacterial production in some oceanic  
526 regimes and, as observed, in one Danish lake (Kirchman, 2003). In the Gulf of Mexico, Antarctic seas, and  
527 in two Swedish lakes, glucose accounted for <10% of bacterial growth (Kirchman, 2003). In the surface  
528 waters of the Gulf of Mexico, glucose was found at a concentration of 2-15 nmol/L (Skoog et al., 1999).  
529 Gocke et al. (2003) found that turnover rates of glucose were very fast in highly productive lagoons: less  
530 than 20 minutes. In less productive systems, the cycling of glucose had a turnover time of two hours  
531 (Gocke et al., 2003).

532  
533 Considering the studies above, it is possible to conclude that glucose given to cows intravenously, as a  
534 component of an electrolyte treatment, or as an excipient in other medical products, does not represent a  
535 threat to water and soil systems. The glucose that is not metabolized might be excreted in the urine of the  
536 treated animals, and the concentrations would be small enough that soil systems with active microbes  
537 should easily consume these amounts of glucose in a matter of hours to days depending in the type of soil.

538  
539 **Evaluation Question #9: Discuss and summarize findings on whether the use of the petitioned**  
540 **substance may be harmful to the environment (7 U.S.C. § 6517 (c) (1) (A) (i) and 7 U.S.C. § 6517 (c) (2) (A)**  
541 **(i)).**

542  
543 As a substance that is critical to the metabolism of living cells, glucose is naturally pervasive in the  
544 environment (Brosnan, 1999; Gunina & Kuzyakov, 2015). The use of glucose as intended at 7 CFR  
545 §205.603(a)(13) by organic livestock producers is therefore unlikely to cause harm to the environment.  
546 Manufacturing glucose does have the potential to cause environmental damage. The major environmental  
547 impact of glucose production is associated with the agricultural production of the starch-containing  
548 produce (corn, wheat, potato, etc.) (Blanco-Cejas et al., 2020; Kis et al., 2019; Vercalsteren et al., 2012). About  
549 70-96% of the ecological impact of glucose manufacturing is caused during the starch production (Blanco-  
550 Cejas et al., 2020). However, if designed optimally, starch production plants should cause little waste  
551 production because all the side streams can be used to produce economically valued products  
552 (Vercalsteren et al., 2012).

553  
554 As described in previous sections, glucose is a universal energy source for living organisms. It is not  
555 acutely toxic for animals, and almost any organism easily metabolizes it. Microorganisms in water and soil  
556 decompose glucose into  $\text{CO}_2$  and water. Plants and cyanobacteria take  $\text{CO}_2$  and water and produce glucose

---

<sup>11</sup> The term mineralization is often used in microbial respiration studies and it describes the degradation of a compound to its "mineral components" (i.e. carbon dioxide and water) and is synonymous with ultimate biodegradation or complete biodegradation (Knapp & Bromley-Challoner, 2003).

558 and other carbohydrates like starch, cellulose, and chitin through photosynthesis, closing the  
559 biogeochemical cycle.

560  
561 **Evaluation Question #10: Describe and summarize any reported effects upon human health from use of**  
562 **the petitioned substance (7 U.S.C. § 6517 (c) (1) (A) (i), 7 U.S.C. § 6517 (c) (2) (A) (i) and 7 U.S.C. § 6518**  
563 **(m) (4)).**

564  
565 High levels of glucose in the blood for a persistent period (hyperglycemia) can have a toxic effect on cells,  
566 tissues and organ systems (Giri et al., 2018). Insulin, secreted from the pancreatic  $\beta$  cells, is a key element in  
567 the homeostatic regulation of blood glucose levels (Fujii et al., 2019). A prolonged hyperglycemic condition  
568 leads to severe diabetic condition by damaging the pancreatic  $\beta$ -cell and inducing insulin resistance (Giri et  
569 al., 2018). People suffering from diabetes or prediabetes have a reduced ability to tolerate glucose loads,  
570 and therefore their health could be negatively affected if they were to receive intravenous glucose  
571 treatment unpaired with an insulin treatment (Dagogo-Jack & Alberti, 2002). Glucose as a component of  
572 livestock health care products does not represent a health risk for the producers because they would not be  
573 ingesting the substance. In addition, the glucose that is not metabolized by the animal will not persist in the  
574 dairy products or meat, as it is excreted in the urine (Metzner et al., 1993).

575  
576  
577 **Evaluation Question #11: Describe all natural (non-synthetic) substances or products which may be**  
578 **used in place of a petitioned substance (7 U.S.C. § 6517 (c) (1) (A) (ii)). Provide a list of allowed**  
579 **substances that may be used in place of the petitioned substance (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (6)).**

580  
581 *Glucose*

582 Glucose production utilizing solely the enzyme hydrolysis process (Refer to *Evaluation Question #2* for  
583 further information) would yield a nonsynthetic product per NOP 5033-1 "Guidance: Decision Tree for  
584 Classification for Materials as Synthetic or Nonsynthetic".

585  
586 *Molasses*

587 Molasses is a nonsynthetic, agricultural commodity commonly added to livestock feed. Adding molasses  
588 as a top-dressing to forage (or fed directly as a fluid) can be used pre-partum as a preventive measure, and  
589 as a treatment for subclinical ketosis postpartum (Havekes et al., 2020; Lans et al., 2007). For more  
590 information, review *Evaluation Question #11* of the 2021 Propylene Glycol Technical Report (2021).

591  
592 *Glycerin*

593 Nonsynthetic glycerin, or glycerol, can be used for the treatment of ketosis. It can be delivered either as an  
594 oral drench or combined in the feed ration. Glycerin can be of special benefit to treat ketosis in sheep (Cal-  
595 Pereyra et al., 2015; Ferraro et al., 2016; Kalyesubula et al., 2019). High dosages of glycerin may have  
596 negative impacts on biodiversity in the rumen, and work remains to clarify rumen impact of glycerin use  
597 (Kupczyński et al., 2020).

598  
599 **Evaluation Question #12: Describe any alternative practices that would make the use of the petitioned**  
600 **substance unnecessary (7 U.S.C. § 6518 (m) (6)).**

601  
602 *Ketosis:*

603 Several studies have found that animals that are given the opportunity to graze and eat high-forage diets  
604 have a decreased incidence of ketosis (Richert et al., 2013; Vickers et al., 2013). There is evidence that  
605 organic cows, required to obtain 30 percent of the daily matter intake (DMI) from grazing, are one third  
606 less likely to have ketosis than conventional animals (Hardeng & Edge, 2001). Grazing animals, both cows  
607 and sheep, also produce milk and meat that is higher in omega-3 fatty acids (Daley et al., 2010; Nuernberg  
608 et al., 2005; Wyss et al., 2010). There is evidence that omega-3 fatty acids improve energy metabolism  
609 immediately after calving (Grossi et al., 2013), suggesting that animals who graze may be less likely to  
610 succumb to ketosis.

611

612 Higher levels of neutral detergent fibers (the insoluble fibers in animal feed such as cellulose,  
613 hemicellulose, and lignin) in feed are correlated with lower levels of serum NEFA (Litherland et al., 2013;  
614 Van Soest et al., 1991). Lower levels of serum NEFA are negatively correlated with subclinical and clinical  
615 ketosis in cows (Drackley & Cardoso, 2014; Duffield, 2000; Herdt, 2000; Vanholder et al., 2015). Litherland  
616 et al. (2013) found that increased amounts of wheat straw in a pre- and postpartum diet in dairy cows  
617 resulted in lower postpartum serum NEFA, suggesting healthier metabolism in postpartum cows. The  
618 wheat straw helps to moderate the prepartum energy intake for animals. Animals overfed with energy  
619 prepartum experienced a negative energy balance for longer into their lactation, which is the primary  
620 driver of postpartum ketosis (Litherland et al., 2013). High-energy diets are typically low in both neutral  
621 detergent fibers and acid detergent fibers, and are therefore nutrient dense (Agenäs et al., 2003; Mashek &  
622 Beede, 2000; Rabelo et al., 2003; Vandehaar et al., 1999). These high-energy diets lead to overeating,  
623 providing significant energy before rumen fill. Drackley et al. (2014) demonstrated that cows fed high-  
624 energy diets during the dry period had greater serum concentrations of  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate, a ketone  
625 related to ketosis.

626  
627 Increasing forage and fibers in a ration leads to rumen fill and reduces DMI, including grain and  
628 concentrates. There is evidence that feeding animals concentrates during the dry period does little more  
629 than needlessly fatten a cow (Grummer, 2008), leading to over-conditioned animals. Feeding concentrates  
630 to dry cows in addition to silage exacerbates the negative energy balance after calving and elevates serum  
631 concentrates of NEFA (Little et al., 2016), both of which correlate with incidence of postpartum ketosis. A  
632 survey of organic and conventional farms in the United States showed that ketosis is less common on farms  
633 where animals graze (Richert et al., 2013) and therefore achieve rumen fill through forage, lowering total  
634 DMI in a ration. Drackley and Cardoso (2014) emphasized the need to formulate feed rations for dry cows  
635 to limit excess energy intake in the lead-up to calving. These new studies contradict the “steam-up” theory  
636 of dry cow nutrition from the mid- and early twentieth century, which recommended increased levels of  
637 grain in pre-transition cows (Boutflour, 1928; Grummer, 2008).

638  
639 Finally, recent studies suggest that lower stocking densities, separate calving pens, and longer recovery  
640 time for transition cows lowers rates of postpartum ketosis (Campler et al., 2019; Kaufman et al., 2016).  
641 Providing transitioning cows with more space and longer recovery time allows animals to have longer  
642 lying periods, which increases rumination, promotes better feeding behavior, and reduces competition for  
643 feed (Kaufman et al., 2016). Improved DMI and feeding post parturition leads to a shorter period of  
644 negative energy balance and is associated with a lower incidence of ketosis (Campler et al., 2019). Campler  
645 et al. (2019) report that extended time in maternity pens reduces stress on animals following calving.

#### 646 *Dehydration/electrolyte imbalance:*

647 Preventive measures that should be taken in order to avoid dehydration and electrolyte imbalance in  
648 livestock include:

- 650 -Proper nutrition and hydration of the animals, specifically the pregnant animals (particularly during the  
651 last third of gestation) and neonatal calves (Stoltenow and Vincent, 2003).
- 652 -Adequate environment for the mother and neonatal calves: avoiding overcrowding and contamination of  
653 the space, maintaining proper sanitation dryness and cleanliness of the environment avoiding exposure to  
654 cold temperatures, rainfall and other stressful conditions (Stoltenow and Vincent, 2003).
- 655 -Proper administration of colostrum with adequate content of immunoglobulin G (IgG) for the neonatal  
656 calves (<2 hours after birth); colostrum IgG concentration appears to be an important factor that affects  
657 whether calves receive sufficient immunity from colostrum (Meganck et al., 2014).

658

### 659 **Report Authorship**

660

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662 approval of this report:

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672 All individuals are in compliance with Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) Subpart 3.11 – Preventing  
673 Personal Conflicts of Interest for Contractor Employees Performing Acquisition Functions.  
674

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