

Safety of superabsorbents in the Absorbest Absorbent Pad

The Absorbest absorbent pads with article numbers F10001 to F10200 have valid food-contact compliance declarations according to the Norwegian Packaging Convention; EK-declarations.

The Absorbent Pads contain a superabsorbent which effectively absorb meltwater and fluids from fish during transportation and storage. The superabsorbent is widely used in consumer and industrial products.

The superabsorbent was subjected to extensive toxicological studies because of its use in consumer products.

No significant signs of toxicity were encountered after oral, inhalatory or dermal administration after single or repeated treatment. In studies for specific toxic test were no significant effects observed in skin and eye irritation tests, sensitization tests, mutagenicity tests (five different assays), teratogenicity test and in hemocompatibility test. The superabsorbent is not a substrate for the growth of pathogens.

The superabsorbent have no taste or smell, which made it very suitable for personal hygiene products, in which improper odours would be impossible.

The fact that the superabsorbent is odourless and tasteless in both dry and wet states, makes it very suitable in absorbtion pads for food.

Questions have been raised that superabsorbents from ruptured absorbent pads may influence the taste of salmon meet. It is concluded that the risk for bad taste or smell of the salmon meet is negligible, as the superabsorbent itself is odourless and tasteless and cannot function as substrate for microorganisms that may produce smell and taste sensations. The physical properties of the superabsorbent matrix makes it highly unlikely that the superabsorbent can be absorbed into salmon meat or penetrate the skin of fish.

The conclusion is that the superabsorbent in the Absorbest Absorbent Pads will not create bad smell or taste to salmon meat if the pads ruptures.

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