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For immediate use

75% of survey respondents happy to eat animals fed on insects Do you agree? Have your say now!

Interim results of a survey published by the scientific research team at PROteINSECT have revealed that three quarters of respondents would be happy to eat chicken, fish or pigs reared on insect protein.

PROteINSECT is an EU-funded project investigating the potential of fly larvae as a novel source of protein in animal feed. Growing concerns about food availability have highlighted the need to find more sustainable protein sources and insects represent a promising alternative.

In order to find out the public's opinion on this issue, PROteINSECT has been conducting an online survey - and the initial results have been largely positive. **Specifically, 69% of respondents believe that protein obtained from fly larvae is suitable for use in animal feed.** Additionally, 75% said they would be willing to eat chicken, fish or pork from animals fed an insect-based diet.

The short survey is still available <u>http://svy.mk/1d5Sabh</u> and can be completed in English, French or German. But the survey will be closing on March 31st, so time is running out for you to make your opinion count!

The final results of the survey will help guide the future direction of the PROteINSECT project and will be presented at the upcoming *Insects to Feed the World Conference*, which is being hosted by the Food & Agriculture Organisation and Wageningen University in the Netherlands (14-17 May 2014). At the Conference, experts from around the world will come together to discuss the potential contribution insects can make to global food security for generations to come.

Elaine Fitches, PROteINSECT Co-ordinator at Fera (The Food & Environment Research Agency) (UK), says: "The views of the public about the production and use of insect protein for animal feed are of great interest to the project and I would urge everyone to complete the survey. It won't take long - and it will make a difference!"

ENDS/ Contacts & Notes follow

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Interviews available with Elaine Fitches, PROteINSECT Co-ordinator/FERA

Notes for Editors:

- 1. PROteINSECT survey on production and use of insect protein for animal feed can be accessed here http://www.proteinsect.eu/index.php?id=2
- 2. PROteINSECT's summary report on current European legislation concerning insect protein and animal feed is available to view and download from the project website http://www.proteinsect.eu/index.php?id=3
- 3. Partners in the PROteINSECT project are:
 - FERA Food & Environment Research Agency, UK Tel +44-1904-462564 Dr. Elaine FITCHES - Coordinator, expertise in entomology and food safety
 - CAB International UK Expertise in entomology
 - Nutrition Sciences NV Belgium -Global producer of feed concepts and functional feed ingredients (FFIs)
 - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Belgium Expertise in Life Cycle Analysis (LCA)
 - Minerva Communications Ltd, UK Expertise in Food Policy and Science Communication
 - Eutema Technology Management GmbH & Co KG Austria Expertise in Science Communication
 - Grantbait Ltd UK Maggot Farmer
 - Guangdong Entomology Institute China -Expertise in Entomology, especially rearing of insects
 - Huazhong Agricultural University China -Expertise in Entomology, expertise in fly rearing and prepupae collection
 - Fish for Africa Ghana Limited by Guarantee Ghana -NGO promoting sustainable Aquaculture in Africa
 - Institut D'Economie Rurale Mali Expertise in sustainable Agriculture in Africa
 - The University of Stirling UK Expertise in Entomology and Fish feeding trials

Notes/end







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