

We at KoRo place great value on making our customers happy and offering the best possible service. Therefore we would like to discuss on a deeper level the oh-so-commonly seen sentence ' Can contain traces of '. Many people, especially when shopping for food, might feel confused when they stumble on information like that on a packaging. Since we care deeply for our customers, we have decided to clarify this sentence once and for all!

Why ' Can contain traces of ...' is Being Used?

Although a product is declared vegan, it may contain traces of lactose. Putting a label with ' Can contain traces of ...' is a mandatory requirement as the production process of certain food items might lead to the **unintentional** transfer of certain food ingredients, like for example lactose into vegan products.

This is often the case when vegan food products are being produced in a production plant in which foods of animal origin are also being processed. Products coming from plants like that might often read on the label "May contain traces of milk".

This note, however, does not mean that the food will actually contain these traces. Once a food is used as an ingredient, it must be listed on the ingredient list. If this is not the case, only the indication of traces is noted, since the manufacturer can not rule out with absolute certainty that there are not any traces to be found which can lead to reactions in the case of allergies.

Unsulphured Dried Fruit

The question that we often get from our customers relates to sulphur. We are of the opinion that sulphur has nothing to do with dried fruits, which is why we do not offer products that contain sulphur. Nonetheless, our packets might contain labels with information "May contain traces of sulphur dioxide". When analysing the sulphur content of dried fruit it has been established that 10 ppm (parts per million) is the limit of detectability. All products that have more than 10ppm of sulphur must have declared "sulphur dioxide" as an ingredient (!).

As with all other traces, the phrase "May contain traces of sulphur dioxide" does not mean that the product is sulphurized, but only that the processing of the product takes place in the same production premises, in which sulphurized goods are also processed. In order to exclude complete contaminations, we would have to create separate production areas, which currently is not possible due to lack of the financial resources.

Such production processes relate to all the specified traces and label warnings.

In Conclusion

We attach great importance to the best possible quality and have always given up on sulphur in our dried fruits. It goes without saying that we and our suppliers do our utmost to avoid contamination with traces by always cleaning the production surfaces and equipment, storing all the products in sealed vessels, using different blades to fill the different product groups. That is the European standard regulation for the use of the term "unsulphurised" and terms like that are most often used as an allergy warning. This regulation also applies analogously to other allergens such as, for example, lactose.

Our products are controlled in European laboratories, which are recognized accordingly. Anything that does not meet our quality standards, we do not enter into the KoRo assortment.