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# Botanical Food Supplements in the EU

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## Size of the Botanical Food Supplements Market

- EU botanical food supplements market value: **2.1 Billion €** Data compiled by EHPM EBF 2012
  - In retail stores:
    - Market of botanical food supplements is valued at 1.6 Billion €
  - Non store channels:
    - Direct sales amounts to 420 Million € The European Direct Selling Association
    - Internet sales estimated at 125 Million €
- Number of botanical food supplements notified National Authorities
  - BE: 3,000 per year
  - IT: 20,000 notified products (4,500 per year)
  - FR: 25,000 since notification was initiated in 2006
- THMP market is considerably smaller EMA report 2011
  - About 750 applications granted EU wide (including member state duplicates)
  - 73% of THMP applications submitted in only 6 countries

## Botanicals in Food Supplements

- Wide variety of botanicals used
  - e.g. positive lists of botanicals allowed
    - BE: positive list of ~ 650 botanicals
    - IT: positive list of >1,200 botanicals
- Most used botanicals in food supplements marketed in the EU
  - *Aesculus hippocastanum*
  - *Allium sativum*
  - *Aloe Vera*
  - *Camellia sinensis*
  - *Cynara scolymus*
  - *Echinacea purpurea*
  - *Ginkgo biloba*
  - *Harpagophytum procumbens*
  - *Hypericum perforatum*
  - *Panax ginseng*
  - *Passiflora incarnata*
  - *Rhodiola rosea*
  - *Serenoa repens*
  - *Silybum marianum*
  - *Vaccinium macrocarpon*
  - *Valeriana officinalis*

## The Sector of Botanical Food Supplements in the EU (Excluding retail level)

- Cultivation and harvesting
  - Over 100,000 hectares cultivated
  - Employment: > 21,000 growers/collectors
- Extract manufacturers\*
  - 100 - 150 companies
  - Employment: 10,000 - 15,000 people
- Final product manufacturers\*
  - 1,000 - 1,500 mainly manufacturing botanical food supplements
  - Of which > 95 % SME's
  - Employment: 30,000 - 35,000 people
- Distributors\*
  - 10,000 - 15,000
  - Employment: 75,000 - 100,000 people

EUROPAM 2005

\*Data compiled by EHPM EBF 2012

Figures likely to be underestimated because of combination products

## Distribution Channels in the EU

### Botanical Food Supplements – Store Retailing

|   | Store Retailing | Employment        | Botanical Supplement Sales<br><i>Estimated %</i> |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Food and Health Shops/Herbalists<br><small>Data compiled by EHPM EBF 2012</small> | > 50,000        | 50,000 – 100,000  | 5-10 %   |
| Grocery/Supermarket/Retail<br><small>Eurostat 2011</small>                        | >460,000        | 5,000,000         | 10-30 %  |
| Pharmacies<br><small>Data compiled by EHPM EBF 2012</small>                       | > 120,000       | 120,000 – 180,000 | 50-60 %  |

### Botanical Food Supplements – Non Store Channels

|  | Non Store Channels                       | Employment | Botanical Supplement Sales<br><i>Estimated %</i> |
|--|--|------------|--|
| Direct Sales<br><small>The European Direct Selling Association</small> | 850,000 - 900,000<br>independent sellers | 3,500      | 20 %   |
| Internet Sales<br><small>Nutraingredients 2012</small>                 | n.a                                      | n.a        | 5-10 %   |

## Botanical Food Supplements: Market Characteristics

### Identification of companies:

- About 20% of companies only deal in botanical food supplements.
- Most food supplement manufacturers have at least some products containing botanicals.
- The majority of companies dealing with botanical food supplements are SMEs.

## Data Gathering

Gathering market information for the botanical food supplement market is difficult:

- Differences in product classification among Member States, including combination products with vitamins, minerals and other substances.
- Information collected only in some distribution channels (retail, pharmacy, direct sales) and not in others.
- Differences in national market structure.
- Information gathering often fragmented and not focused on food supplements (e.g. foods and herbal teas included).
- Collected market data is classified in health segments, not based on product composition.
- Difficult to classify products on the basis of their composition.