CLAIMS

1. A product comprising dehydrated flesh of green bananas and/or plantains and/or dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material.

2. The product according to claim 1, wherein the non-flesh banana plant material comprises skins or stems or flowers.

3. The product according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the product has a resistant starch content of at least 39% (by weight).

4. The product according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the product is in the form of a crumble or a powder.

5. The product according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the product is an animal or human feed product or a nutraceutical product or a component of a nutraceutical product.

6. A process for producing a product comprising dehydrated flesh and skin of green bananas or plantains, the process comprising:

slicing whole green bananas or plantains to form banana or plantain slices comprising flesh and skin;

dehydrating said banana or plantain slices to form dried green banana or plantain slices to form the product in the form of slices; or

dehydrating said banana or plantain slices to form dehydrated green banana slices and comminuting said dehydrated banana or plantain slices to form the product comprising dehydrated flesh and skin of green bananas or plantains.

7. The process of claim 6, wherein the whole green bananas or plantains comprise flesh, peel, stem and flower material.

8. The process of any one of claims 6 to 7, wherein the slices have a thickness of between about 1 mm and about 20 mm.

9. The process of any one of claims 6 to 8, comprising dehydrating the green banana or plantain slices under conditions to achieve water activity of no greater than 0.6.

10. The process of any one of claims 6 to 9, comprising dehydrating the green banana or plantain slices by exposing them to a heat source having a temperature of from about 50°C to about 90°C for a time period of from about 10 minutes to 180 minutes.

11. A method for providing a health benefit to a human or animal, the method comprising administering to a human or animal a physiologically effective amount of the product according to any one of claims 1 to 5.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the health benefit is selected from one or more of the group consisting of improved gut health, improved general wellbeing, antioxidant effects, hypoglycaemic effect, reduced cholesterol, improved insulin sensitivity, improved wound healing, and anti-lithiatic effect.

13. A product comprising dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material comprising skins, stems or flowers.

14. The product according to claim 13, wherein the product is in the form of a crumble or a powder.

15. The product according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the product is an animal or human feed product or a nutraceutical product or a component of a nutraceutical product.

16. A process for producing a product comprising dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material, the process comprising:

obtaining whole or part non-flesh plant material from green bananas or plantains;

dehydrating said whole or part non-flesh plant material to form dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material; and

optionally comminuting said dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material to form the product comprising dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material.

17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the non-flesh banana plant material comprises skins or stems or flowers.

18. The method according to claim 16 or 17, further comprising mixing said dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material and/or comminuted dehydrated non-flesh banana plant material with dehydrated flesh of green bananas or plantains to form a product comprising dehydrated flesh of green bananas or plantains and non-flesh banana plant material.