Claims

1. A batch of homogeneous legume starch with a content of slowly digestible starch (SDS) comprised between 30 and 34% by weight, characterized in that it also has a content of very slowly digestible starch (vSDS), comprised between 34 and 40% by weight, wherein the vSDS content is determined by measuring the glucose release by extending the ENGLYST digestion to its end, defined by the plateau reached at time 420 minutes, in which:

- the ENGLYST digestion method is an *in vitro* digestion defined by the method of H. N. Englyst et al in "*Classification and measurement of nutritionally important starch fractions*", Eur. J. Clin. Nutr., 46 (Supp. 2), S33-S50 (1992), and
- the vSDS fraction content is deduced according to the equation vSDS = 100 – (RDS + SDS + corrected RS), wherein RDS is the digestible fraction between 0 and 20 minutes, SDS is the digestible fraction between 20 and 120 minutes, and corrected RS is the non-digestible fraction after 420 minutes of digestion.

2. The starch according to claim 1, characterized in that the legume starch is selected from the group of pea, bean, broad bean, field bean, lentil, alfalfa, clover and lupin starches, and is particularly pea starch.

3. The starch according to either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that it has a total slowly and very slowly digestible starch content of more than 64% by weight.

4. A method for determining the vSDS content of a legume starch, this content being determined by measuring the glucose release by extending the ENGLYST digestion to its end, defined by the plateau reached at time 420 minutes, in which

- the ENGLYST digestion method is an *in vitro* digestion defined by the method of H. N. Englyst et al in "*Classification and measurement of nutritionally important starch fractions*", Eur. J. Clin. Nutr., 46 (Supp. 2), S33-S50 (1992), and
- the vSDS fraction content is deduced according to the equation vSDS = 100 – (RDS + SDS + corrected RS), wherein RDS is the digestible fraction between 0 and 20 minutes, SDS is the digestible fraction between 20 and 120 minutes, and corrected RS is the non-digestible fraction after 420 minutes of digestion.

5. Use of the method of determining the content of the very slowly digestible starch of a legume starch according to claim 4 for selecting a batch of starch according to any one of claims 1 to 3.