

CLAIMS

1. A food for aquatic animals comprising at least one species of insect larvae or a part thereof coated with solid or semi solid coating comprising a nutrient composition, the nutrient composition comprising an oil phase and at least one nutrient component enriching the nutritive value of the larvae.
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2. The food of claim 1, wherein the at least one nutrient component is selected from the group consisting of oil-soluble nutrient, water soluble nutrient and a combination thereof.
3. The food of claim 2, wherein the nutrient composition further comprises a water
10 phase.
4. The food of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the nutrient composition further comprises at least one food grade functional material forming a water-stable film coating.
5. The food of claim 4, wherein the at least one food grade functional material
15 forming the water-stable film coating is selected from the group consisting of a wax, an emulsifier, a polysaccharide, a protein, a resin and any combination thereof.
6. The food of any one of claims 4-5, wherein the water-stable film coating at least partially encapsulates the insect larvae coated with the nutrient composition.
- 20 7. The food of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the larvae are of a species selected from the group consisting of Black Soldier Fly (*Hermetia Illucens*), Common Housefly (*Musca domestica*), Yellow Mealworm (*Tenebrio molitor*), Lesser Mealworm (*Alphitobius diaperinus*), House Cricket (*Acheta domesticus*), Banded Cricket (*Gryllodes sigillatus*) Field Cricket (*Gryllus assimilis*) and any
25 combination thereof.
8. The food of any one of claims 2-7, wherein the oil-soluble nutrient component is selected from the group consisting of a fatty acid, an oil-soluble vitamin and a combination thereof.
9. The food of claim 8, wherein the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting
30 of EPA, DHA and a combination thereof.

10. The food of any one of claims 8-9, wherein the vitamin is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E, vitamin K, vitamin D, vitamin A and any combination thereof.
- 5 11. The food of any one of claims 2-10, wherein the water-soluble component is selected from the group consisting of an amino acid, a water-soluble vitamin, a nutritional mineral and any combination thereof.
- 10 12. The food of any one of claims 1-11, wherein the nutrient composition further comprises at least one aquatic-animal compatible ingredient selected from the group consisting of a palatability enhancer, a pigment, a preservative, and an anti-oxidant.
13. The food of any one of claims 1-12 wherein the nutrient composition further comprises an agent selected from a medication and a vaccine.
14. The food of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the larvae are in a form selected from a live form and a dead form.
- 15 15. The food of claim 14, wherein the dead larvae are partially or completely dried.
16. The food of any one of claims 1-15, wherein the components of the nutrient composition and their ratios are set according to the aquatic animal species and/or growth stage.
- 20 17. A process for preparing a food for aquatic animal comprising at least one species of insect larvae, comprising:
- 25 a. obtaining at least one species of larvae separated from the larvae frass and/or any residual rearing substrate; and
- b. coating the larvae with a solid or semi-solid nutrient composition comprising an oil phase comprising at least one nutrient component, and optionally a water phase.
18. The process of claim 17, wherein the at least one nutrient component is selected from the group consisting of an oil-soluble nutrient, a water soluble nutrient and a combination thereof.
- 30 19. The process of any one of claims 17-18, said process further comprising

adding at least one food grade functional material to form a water-stable film coating at least partially encapsulating the coated larvae.

- 5 20. The process of any one of claims 17-19, wherein the larvae are obtained at a growth stage set by the chitin content of said larvae, wherein said chitin content is suitable for the aquatic animal to be fed.
21. The process of any one of claims 17-20, said process further comprising analyzing the nutritional content of the larvae.
- 10 22. The process of claim 21, wherein the content of the nutrient composition is set according to the nutritional content of the larvae and according to the nutritional requirements of an aquatic animal to be fed.
23. The process of any one of claims 17-22, wherein the obtained larvae are intact larvae or parts thereof.
- 15 24. The process of any one of claims 17-23, said process further comprising sanitizing the obtained larvae to minimize the presence of pathogens on said larvae.
25. The process of any one of claims 17-24, said process further comprising drying the coated larvae.
- 20 26. The process of any one of claims 17-25, said process further comprising at least one of reducing the amount of chitin in the larvae, softening the larvae's cuticle or reducing the thickness of the larvae's cuticle.
27. A method of feeding an aquatic animal, the method comprising providing to the aquatic animal rearing water a nutritionally effective amount of the food according to any one of claims 1-16.
- 25 28. The method of claim 27, said method further comprising providing the food in combination with extruded feed pellets.