CLAIMS:

1. A process to reduce the phorbol ester content of seed kernel of *Jatropha curcas* varieties containing phorbol ester, where kernel comprises an endosperm and a tegmen, by removing the tegmen from the endosperm, comprising the steps of:

a) contacting at least one *Jatropha curcas* seed kernel with a chemical solution, wherein the chemical solution comprises one or more chemicals that act to loosen the tegmen around the endosperm; b) separating the tegmen from the endosperm; and c) collecting the separated endosperm and optionally the tegmen.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the one or more chemicals are selected from the group comprising, alkalis, including alkali salts such as sodium hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide and calcium hydroxide; acids, salts, such as sodium chloride, sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate; and oxidizing agents, such as hydrogen peroxide.

3. The process of claim 2, wherein the one or more chemicals are selected from the group comprising potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, sodium bicarbonate and hydrogen peroxide.

4. The process of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the contacting includes mixing of the seed kernel with the chemical solution, preferably by rotation or shaking.

5. The process of any one of claims 1 to 4, further comprising a step of rinsing the kernels from step a) prior to step b).

6. The process of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the contacting in step a) is for a period of at least 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 minutes.

7. The process of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein step a) is performed at room temperature.

8. The process of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the chemical solution comprises at least 0.005% sodium bicarbonate and/or at least 0.025% hydrogen peroxide.

9. The process of any one of the previous claims, being an industrial scale process comprising the steps of:

a) contacting at least one *Jatropha curcas* seed kernel with a chemical solution by mixing for about 10-15 minutes;

b) separating the tegmen from the endosperm by washing with water over a sieve, wherein step a) and/or b) is performed in a rotary drum, and

c) collecting the separated endosperm and optionally the tegmen.

10. The process of any one of the previous claims, wherein at least 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 or 90% of the tegmen is removed.

11. The process of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the phorbol ester content of the separated endosperm in step c) is at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30% reduced compared to the kernel in step a).

12. The process of any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the separated endosperm from step c) is further processed to extract oil and produce seed cake.

13. The process of any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein the separated tegmen from step c) is further processed into phorbol ester-containing products selected from the group comprising anti-microbial, anti-viral, anti-mollusc, anti-tumor and bio-pesticide agents.

14. At least one *Jatropha curcas* seed endosperm with reduced phorbol ester content compared to the seed's kernel, wherein the tegmen has been removed from the kernel and the phorbol ester reduction is at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30% w/w.

15. *Jatropha curcas* seed cake produced using seed endosperm, wherein the tegmen has been removed from the kernel and wherein the seed cake has a phorbol ester content reduced by at least 5, at least 10, at least 15, at least 20, at least 25 or by at least 30% w/w compared to a seed cake made with the seed's kernel.