

CLAIMS

1. A cocoa composition comprising less than 5 weight% of milk solids, characterized in that it comprises 0.5-15 weight% of a pea-based protein and 0.5-10 weight% of a plasticizer ingredient.
2. The cocoa composition according to claim 1, characterized in that the pea-based protein is selected from the group consisting of whole pea powder, a pea protein isolate, a pea protein concentrate, a pea protein hydrolysate and a combination of two or more thereof.
3. The cocoa composition according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the plasticizer ingredient is a liposoluble ingredient, preferably from a vegetable source.
4. The cocoa composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the liposoluble ingredient is selected from the group of liquid oil, randomized fats and combinations of two or more thereof.
5. The cocoa composition according to claim 4, characterized in that the liposoluble ingredient is substantially free from hydrogenated fats.
6. The cocoa composition according to claim 4 or claim 5, characterized in that the liquid oil is selected from the group consisting of oils sourced from almonds, pine nuts, pistachios, cashews, hazelnuts, peanuts, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, high-oleic sunflower seeds, rapeseeds and mixtures of two or more thereof.
7. The cocoa composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the composition further comprises a bulking ingredient selected from the group consisting of oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, soluble dietary fibres, insoluble dietary fibres and mixtures of two or more thereof.

8. The cocoa composition according to claim 7, characterized in that the bulking ingredient is selected from the group consisting of vegetable fibres, dextrin, maltodextrin, polydextrose, inulin, dehydrated grain syrups, pectin and mixtures of two or more thereof.
9. The cocoa composition according to claim 7 or claim 8, characterized in that the vegetable fibres are selected from the group consisting of cereal or grain fibres, fruit fibres and mixtures of two or more thereof, preferably rice fibres, pea fibres, coconut fibres soy fibres and mixtures of two or more thereof.
10. The cocoa composition according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises at least 30 weight% of sucrose.
11. The cocoa composition according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises at least 30 weight% of cocoa solids.
12. The cocoa composition according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is substantially free from milk solids.
13. The cocoa composition according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises less than 30 weight% maltitol, erythritol and/or lactitol.
14. Food products comprising the cocoa composition according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the food products are selected from the group consisting of bakery products, confectionary products, and dairy-alternative products.