

Be smart at any time Scientific Summary

## What is Bluenesse<sup>®</sup>?

Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> is a high quality, sustainable, natural food ingredient, which is able to improve cognitive performance while helping to cope with stress.

It is a special *Melissa officinalis (L.)* extract, an annual edible herb native to Europe. Traditionally lemon balm extract is used for relaxation.

*In vitro* and human studies demonstrated that Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> combines the traditional calming and mood enhancing effects with beneficial effects to support cognitive performance, particularly alertness and memory.

Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> is scientifically proven, IP protected and approved to be used in dietary supplements and foods.

## Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> – Science

Several studies have been carried out using the proprietary *Melissa officinalis* extract to investigate the effects on cognitive performance:

- 1. Pilot and pharmacokinetic human study
- 2. Three nutritional human studies to confirm effects of lemon balm in food matrices
- 3. Three in vitro studies to investigate mode of actions related to cognition and mood
  - a. Effects of Bluenesse® on Muscarinic M1 receptor
  - b. Effects of Bluenesse® on Monoamine oxidase B (MAO B) enzyme
  - c. Effects of Bluenesse® on Phosphodiesterase (PDE4) enzyme

Study facts and results are summarized within the leaflet.



Bluenesse® significantly improves cognition, mood and the ability to cope with stress

## Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> helps to support...

- cognitive performance
- to cope with stress
- to relax and sleep
- nootropic benefits
- Work-Life-Balance

These statements have not been evaluated by FDA and EFSA. The product is not intended to diagnose, treat or cure any disease.





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#### 1. Pilot and pharmacokinetic human study

The results of the single blind pilot study with 5 volunteers showed that supplementation with Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> supports cognitive performance.

Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> was absorbed within 0.5-1h in the plasma and eliminated after approx. 5h (see figure of pharmacokinetic study on the right). This indicates a quick onset of effects and that also multiple intake per day is safe.



A. Scholey , et al., "Anti-Stress Effects of Lemon Balm-Containing Foods," Nutrients, 6, 4805-4821 (2014)

#### 2. Human studies to investigate effects on cognition, mood & stress

#### Study facts:

- 25 healthy people, ages 18-39, 8 male and 17 female, non-smoker
- Intake 300 mg or 600 mg lemon balm extract once during study days or placebo
- Study product: water-based drink, yoghurt-based drink and fruit bar
- General population, focusing in students
- The study was conducted by Brain Institute, Swinburne University, Australia

#### Water drink & yoghurt-based drink study – flow chart:



A. Scholey, et al., "Anti-Stress Effects of Lemon Balm-Containing Foods," Nutrients, 6, 4805-4821 (2014) A. Scholey, et al., "Investigation of a Melissa officinalis special extract on Cognition II, Human study - Lemon balm extract administered in confectionary bars," Agrofood Industry hi-tech (2015)





#### Placebo formulations/ Sweetener systems:

Within the studies three different sweetener systems were investigated, applied to the Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> - as well as to the placebo study products; natural fruit sweetener, artificial sweetener and sugar.

Artificial sweetener had a negative impact on cognitive performance, in the absence of sugar, as also described in literature.

The sugar and the natural fruit sweetener had no significant effects to improve cognitive performance.

#### Significant study results - water & yoghurt-based drink:

Two dosages, 300 mg and 600 mg Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> were studied. 300 mg Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> was identified to be the effective dosage. 600 mg did not lead to better results.

In the following part, the results for 300 mg Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> using the natural fruit sweetener system for the Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> as well as for the placebo study product are summarized.



Results showed a significant improvement of working memory and reduction of anxiety, 1 and 3h after Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> intake. Cortisol, a stress marker, was significantly decreased after 1h. Results confirm, that Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> can be taken on demand.



Results demonstrated a significant improvement of alertness 1 and 3h after Bluenesse® intake. In addition, mathematic processing and fatigue were improved after 3h.

The bioavailability of Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> in dairy formulations seems to be slower than in water, still delivering effects on demand.

#### Significant study results – fruit bar:



Results showed a significant improvement of memory 1 and 3h after 600 mg Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> intake. In this study only 600 mg Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> was investigated, assuming that the bioavailability in fruit bars is limited.





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### 3.a. In vitro study to explore binding to Muscarinic M1 receptor

The effect on cognitive performance of Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> has been investigated by measuring M1 receptor binding properties

Results show that Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> has M1 receptor affinity

S. Buchwald-Werner et al., "Investigation of a Melissa officinalis special extract on Cognition I, In vitro study on muscarinic properties," Agrofood Industry hi-tech (2015)

#### 3.b. In vitro study to test Monoamine oxidase B inhibiting effects

The effects on cognitive performance and mood of Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> have been investigated by measuring inhibition of MAO B

Results showed that Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> inhibits MAO B





#### 3.c. *In vitro* study to test Phosphodiesterase (PDE4) inhibiting effects

The effects on cognitive performance and memory of Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> have been investigated by measuring inhibition of PDE4

Results showed that Bluenesse<sup>®</sup> inhibits PDE4



#### Acetylcholine (ACh) and Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA)

Rosmarinic acid is a known GABA transaminase and acetylcholine esterase inhibitor

- Higher concentrations of GABA are supporting a calm mood
- Elevated acetylcholine levels are improving memory and cognition

