Reviewer's report

Title: Lack of efficacy of blueberry in nutritional prevention of azoxymethane-initiated cancers of rat small intestine and colon

Version: 1 Date: 23 June 2009

Reviewer: Denis Corpet

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This is a well written, well designed study of “anti-cancer” effect of freeze-dried blueberry on an accepted animal model of chemically induced colorectal cancer. The results show the blueberry has little or no effect. Additional findings concern gender differences, and intestinal sites differences.

1- The authors should cite, and comment, a highly relevant paper on the same topic, but using a different animal model, and a different “blueberry powder”:
Effect of cyanidin-3-glucoside and an anthocyanin mixture from bilberry on adenoma development in the ApcMin mouse model of intestinal carcinogenesis--relationship with tissue anthocyanin levels.

2- Reviewer thinks that one of the cited references (ref.26), which is highly relevant to the present study, contains “very strange” data that are in strong contrast with the present MS findings. Reviewer suggests the authors could still cite ref.26, but that their discussion should leave some “doubts” on ref.26 results.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests