Glossary

Monocotyledons or monocots Monocot seeds typically have one cotyledon (seed-leaf), in contrast to the two cotyledons typical of dicots

Poaceae (also known as the **Gramineae**) is a large and nearly ubiquitous family of monocot flowering plants. Members of this family are commonly called grasses.

Husk (or **hull**) in botany is the outer shell or coating of a seed. It often refers to the leafy outer covering of an ear of maize (corn) as it grows on the plant. Husk or hull includes the protective outer covering of a seed, fruit or vegetable.

Endosperm is the tissue produced inside the seeds surrounding the embryo. For example, wheat endosperm is ground into flour for bread.

Germ of a cereal is the reproductive part that germinates to grow into a plant; it is the embryo of the seed.

Bran Along with germ, it is an integral part of whole grains, and is often produced as a by-product of milling in the production of refined grains. Bran is present in and may be milled from any cereal grain, including rice, corn (maize), wheat, oats, barley and millet. Bran is particularly rich in dietary fiber and essential fatty acids and contains significant quantities of starch, protein, vitamins and dietary minerals

Amylases is an enzyme that helps digest carbohydrates. *Amylase* is an enzyme, or special protein, produced by the pancreas and salivary glands. *Amylase*, any member of a class of enzymes that catalyze the hydrolysis (splitting of a compound by addition of a water molecule) of starch into smaller molecules like glucose.

Proteases A *protease* (also called a peptidase or proteinase) is an enzyme that performs proteolysis; protein catabolism by hydrolysis of peptide

bonds.

Lipases *Lipase* is an enzyme the body uses to break down fats in food so they can be absorbed in the intestines. *Lipase* is produced in the pancreas, mouth, and stomach.

Oxido-reductases An *oxidoreductase* is an enzyme that catalyzes the transfer of electrons from one molecule, the reductant, also called the electron donor, to another, the oxidant, also called the electron acceptor. This group of enzymes usually utilizes NADP or NAD+ as cofactors.

