Religious Muslims cleared to consume lab-grown beef if origins of cells are from ‘humanely-killed’ cows

Lab-grown meat is a rising trend among those looking to reduce their carbon footprint.

For Muslims looking to live a more environmentally friendly lifestyle, however, a big question is whether or not it is halal.

So – is it?

The short answer, according to some Muslim scholars, is yes, but it depends.

Follow the latest news and policy debates on sustainable agriculture, biomedicine, and other ‘disruptive’ innovations. Subscribe to our newsletter.

SIGN UP

Farhan Siddiqi, a graduate of Makkah’s Umm Al Qura University and the imam of Dar Al Hijra Islamic centre in the US state of Virginia, said that lab-grown meat can be halal if certain conditions are met.

“Lab-cultivated meat can be halal if the cell being cultivated is from the cow [or other animal] that has been slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law,” he told The National.

For meat to be considered halal, it must meet a variety of requirements that include ensuring humane slaughter, the draining of all blood and the good health of the animal before it is killed.

[CEO of Just Meats Josh] Tetrick, recognising the importance of not excluding the world’s two billion Muslims, consulted with three Muslim scholars whose views coincided with Imam Siddiqi: cultivated meat is halal as long as the cells are harvested in a way that complies with Islamic standards.

This is an excerpt. Read the original post here