



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Genetically Modified Food and Feed*

27 October 2022

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/55b2edd3-069e-40fd-ad4a-8b163f54ff1f/library/4bbeb771-7e98-48a8-a860-e5f10b968585?p=1>

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Assessment of genetically modified soybean A5547-127 for renewal authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-RX-020) – Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for renewal of the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean A5547-127. No questions were raised by the Member States.

A.02 Assessment of genetically modified maize MON 89034 x 1507 x MIR162 x NK603 x DAS-40278-9 for food and feed uses, under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-NL-2018-151) – Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 89034 x 1507 x MIR162 x NK603 x DAS-40278-9. No questions were raised by the Member States.

A.03 Assessment of genetically modified oilseed rape MON 94100 for food and feed uses, under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-NL-2020-169) – Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 94100. One Member State recalled the unauthorised release of several genetically modified oilseed rape events on its territory earlier in the year and suggested considering those findings in the context of the post-marketing monitoring report of this event.

A.04 Assessment of genetically modified maize MIR162 for renewal authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-RX-025) – Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for renewal of the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MIR 162. No questions were raised by the Member States.

A.05 Evaluation of existing guidelines for their adequacy for the food and feed risk assessment of genetically modified plants obtained through synthetic biology – Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the statement on the evaluation of existing guidelines for their adequacy for the food and feed risk assessment of genetically modified plants obtained through synthetic biology. One Member State asked further clarifications to EFSA on this statement, in particular regarding the approach for complex products.

A.06 Assessment of genetically modified oilseed rape MS11 (EFSA-Q-2022-00464) – Presentation by EFSA.

Following comments received from one Member State on the inconclusive opinion on the risk assessment of genetically modified oilseed rape MS11, the Commission requested EFSA to assess the comments and to clarify the conclusion of its opinion. EFSA presented its reply, received on 6 October 2022, which confirmed the inconclusiveness of the opinion.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean A5547-127 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The draft Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean A5547-127 was presented to the Committee.

Vote taken: no opinion.

Reasons for negative vote or abstention:

- No agreed national position
- Negative public opinion
- Precautionary principle
- Scientific reasons
- Political reasons

Declaration provided by Sweden:

“The authorisation of placing on renewed the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soybean A5547-127 is on the agenda for this meeting. The authorisation does not include cultivation. Soybean A5547-127 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.

The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by EFSA i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorisation according to the Commission proposal.

This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorisation of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.”

Declaration provided by Austria:

“Austria is of the opinion that the risk assessment, which has been carried out, is affected by uncertainties unsuitable to give a scientific proof for the safety of this product and, therefore, objects the placing on the market of genetically modified soybean A5547-127 for the following reasons:

a. The genetically modified soybean A5547-127 is a carrier of antibiotic resistance marker gene fragments of an ampicillin beta-lactamase, which may facilitate the dissemination of antimicrobial resistance via mosaic gene formation in soil and gut bacteria. Considering the current crisis in antibiotic resistance, we cannot support a deliberate fuelling of the environmental antibiotic resistance gene pool by this product.

b. By not removing this resistance gene fragment from the commercialized product the applicant is violating Commission Implementing Regulation 503/13, Annex II.2 (Specific Considerations), on the “insertion of marker genes and other nucleic acid(s) sequences not essential to achieve the desired trait”.”

Consequently, the Chair informed the Committee that the draft Decision will be submitted to the Appeal Committee.

M.01 Applicability of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 to certain products (laying hens and their eggs)

One Member State gave a short presentation on a production system for laying hens and their eggs avoiding culling of day-old male chick. The Commission proposed to share available information with the Committee and have a broader discussion at a forthcoming meeting.