



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*
26 April 2024

CIRCABC Link: https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/55b2edd3-069e-40fd-ad4a-8b163f54ff1f/library/6e0f5535-80fa-4e66-8785-c5c935a12ad3?p=1&n=10&sort=name_ASC

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Assessment of genetically modified maize DP-202216-6 for food and feed uses, under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-NL-2019-159) – 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 DP-202216-6. No Member State raised questions.

A.02 Emergency measures regarding unauthorised genetically modified rice in rice products originating from China (Decision 2011/884/EU): Overview of the results of Member States' controls for 2023 – Presentation by the Commission and discussion.

The Commission presented an analysis of Member State controls for unauthorised GM rice in rice products originating from China (Decision 2011/884/EU) for the year 2023 and an analysis of incompliance rates as observed via documentary and analytical checks at border controls for the last decade (2013-2023).

The Commission also presented a comparison of the data extracted from the TRACES-NG platform and the data contained in Member State quarterly reports, as well as its analysis of the reasons for certain persistent discrepancies between the two reporting systems. The Commission emphasised the need for Member States to use TRACES to report all analytical checks, and to increase awareness and use of the new TRACES feature that allows identifying consignments containing rice from China. Some Member States indicated that support (e.g. training or guidance) on the use of TRACES for the purposes of reporting on the China measure might be necessary. The Commission agreed to consider possible action in this regard, in particular to support use of the new feature in TRACES.

The Committee confirmed the interest in transitioning to TRACES for reporting of controls under Decision 2011/884/EU but, in view of the remaining discrepancies, agreed to continue to report data on border controls also by quarterly reports in 2024, while continuing work to resolve outstanding discrepancies between the entries recorded in quarterly reports and the entries recorded on TRACES.

One Member State raised the issue of analytical problems in cases where there is very low presence of DNA, which is insufficient to allow detection of GM rice presence after DNA extraction. This situation was encountered by the Member State in relation to certain vacuum-packed precooked noodles that can be stored at room temperature. The Commission recalled previous discussions on the problems encountered during the DNA extraction and analysis of rice alcohol products, as discussed during the meeting of the Standing Committee held on 24 October 2014 (point M.05), where the Committee agreed that a Member State Competent Authority may decide to perform only documentary checks on specific products, when previous experience demonstrated that products do not contain sufficient DNA to perform a GMO analysis.

Another Member State raised questions on the practical implementation of Decision 2011/884/EU. The Commission clarified that documentary checks are required for all consignments containing rice or rice products from China and confirmed that the official health certificates should be issued before the consignment leaves the control of the competent authority in the third country issuing the certificate. In addition, the Commission confirmed that only one of two alternative types of Common Health Entry Document (CHED) need to be submitted for consignments covered by Decision 2011/884/EU: CHED-D is used for consignments of feed and food of non-animal origin while CHED-P is used for consignments containing animal products.

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 feed containing, consisting of and of food and feed products produced from genetically modified maize MON 810, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1207

The draft Decision renewing the placing on the market of feed containing, consisting of and of food and feed products produced from genetically modified maize MON 810 and repealing Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1207 was presented to the Committee.

No Member State raised questions.

Vote taken: no opinion.

Reasons for negative vote or abstention:

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

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

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize DP-023211-2, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The draft Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically maize DP-023211-2 was presented to the Committee.

No Member State raised questions.

Vote taken: No opinion.

Reasons for negative vote or abstention:

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

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

Declaration provided by Sweden:

“The authorisation of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified the maize DP-023211-2 is on the agenda for this meeting. The authorisation does not include cultivation. The maize DP-023211-2 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.”

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize DP-915635-4, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The draft Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically maize DP-915635-4 was presented to the Committee.

No Member State raised questions.

Vote taken: No opinion.

Reasons for negative vote or abstention:

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

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

Declaration provided by Sweden:

“The authorisation of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified the maize DP-915635-4 is on the agenda for this meeting. The authorisation does not include cultivation. The maize DP-915635-4 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.”