

Seamons, Colleen

From: Shirley Collins [scollin5@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 April 2011 3:27 AM
To: standards management
Subject: FW: A1042 - Food derived from herbicide-tolerant corn line DAS-40278-9

Categories: Purple Category

Submission from:

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From: Shirley Collins [mailto:scollin5@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 April 2011 9:14 AM
To: 'standards management'
Subject: A1042 - Food derived from herbicide-tolerant corn line DAS-40278-9

Application A1042 - Food derived from herbicide-tolerant corn line DAS-40278-9

This application must be REJECTED.

This corn is modified to resist 2,4-D (a major component of Agent Orange) to allow entire crops to be sprayed with this pesticide which the US Center for Disease Control classifies as a chlorophenol, a class of chemicals associated with adverse human health effects, including liver and immune-system problems, and has been banned in various countries at various times.

I request that an embargo be placed on importing or allowing the cultivation of genetically modified (GM) food until the outstanding issues are resolved, including:

- Mandatory labelling of all food derived from GM ingredients or from animals fed GM feed. Optional labelling of non-GM food. A review of labelling is currently in progress and attracted thousands of submissions. There should be no more GMO approvals until the review reports is written, and recommendations reviewed and implemented.
- Health safety concerns. There have been precious few independent studies done on the effects of GM food. And there have been NO human studies done. The results of the research conducted by Dr Judy Carman are pending. There should be no more GMO approvals until we have positive proof that its safe for humans to eat. You cannot conclude it is safe by adopting a "don't look, don't find" strategy. That's bad science and extremely irresponsible.

FSANZ has approved GM foods safe that other countries are declaring unsafe, for example ...

From France recently:

<http://www.biosafety-info.net/article.php?aid=654>

<http://www.biolsci.org/v05p0706.htm>

We present for the first time a comparative analysis of blood and organ system data from trials with rats fed three main commercialized genetically modified (GM) maize (NK 603, MON 810, MON 863), which are present in food and feed in the world. NK 603 has been modified to be tolerant to the broad spectrum herbicide Roundup and thus contains residues of this formulation. MON 810 and MON 863 are engineered to synthesize two different Bt toxins used as insecticides.

The researchers have concluded that all the 3 GMOs that they have studied contain novel pesticide residues that will be present in food and feed and may pose grave health risks to those consuming them. They have, therefore, called for immediate prohibition on the import and cultivation of these GMOs and have strongly recommended additional long-term (up to 2 years) and multi-generational animal feeding studies on at least three species to provide true scientifically valid data on the acute and chronic toxic effects of GM crops, feed and foods.

CRIIGEN denounces in particular the past opinions of EFSA, AFSSA and CGB, committees of European and French Food Safety Authorities, and others who spoke on the lack of risks on the tests which were conducted just for 90 days on rats to assess the safety of these three GM varieties of maize.

While criticizing their failure to examine the detailed statistics, CRIIGEN also emphasizes the conflict of interest and incompetence of these committees to counter expertise this publication as they have already voted positively on the same tests ignoring the side effects.

Yet in Australia:

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/educationalmaterial/factsheets/factsheets2009/updateimpactofaustri4157.cfm>

FSANZ conclusion

*Despite the comprehensive nature of the studies by Velimirovet al, the results show no differences of biological significance in reproductive performance or longevity of mice fed a diet containing GM corn, compared with mice fed a conventional corn diet. In addition, the DNA microarray analyses do not provide meaningful information on gene expression in the different diet groups. Based on the available evidence, FSANZ can confirm the conclusions of the previous safety assessments of corn lines **NK603 and MON810**.*

Other evaluations

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has also reviewed the Austrian study and released its conclusions as part of the Minutes of the 46th Plenary Meeting of the Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO Panel) held on 3-4 December 2008. This is available on the EFSA website at:

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/cs/BlobServer/Event_Meeting/gmo_statement_austrianstudy_en.pdf?ssbinary=true

EFSA does not consider the Austrian studies to be of scientific value due to flaws in methodology, a number of statistical errors, and inconsistent evaluations of data. The GMO Panel also considered the report lacked historical control data relating to the mouse strain used in the studies, and provided insufficient information on the genetic analysis.