

**Application A1063**  
**FOOD DERIVED FROM HERBICIDE-TOLERANT SOYBEAN**  
**MON87708**

**General Procedure**

**Summary**

The Monsanto Company has developed a genetically modified (GM) soybean line known as MON87708 that is tolerant to the herbicide dicamba. The strategy for making plants tolerant to dicamba is to detoxify the herbicide with an enzyme that transforms the dicamba into biologically inactive products.

No novel dicamba metabolites were characterised or unusual levels of dicamba residues detected during trials. However, the discussion on residues of dicamba and its metabolites in soybean would benefit from further comment about the toxicity of the metabolites.

**Specific Issues**

- The significance of dicamba metabolites in soybean seed, toasted defatted meal and defatted flour requires further explanation.
- The toxicity of the metabolites is not discussed.
- The absence of an MRL standard for dicamba in soybean is not considered.
- The inclusion of the metabolites in the definition of dicamba for the purposes of the MRL is not explored.

**ENDS**

The views expressed in this submission may or may not accord with those of other NSW Government agencies. The NSW Food Authority has a policy which encourages the full range of NSW agency views to be submitted during the standards development stages before final assessment. Other relevant NSW Government agencies are aware of and agree with this policy.