

Additional Information

Maize MON 87427

Please find below some additional regulatory impact information which was not supplied with our initial application.

“If the draft variation to permit the sale and use of food derived from MON 87427 is approved possible affected parties may include consumers, industry sectors and government. The consumers who may be affected are those particularly concerned about the use of biotechnology. Industry sectors affected may be food importers, distributors, processors and manufacturers. Lastly government enforcement agencies may be affected.

A cost/benefit analysis quantified in monetary terms is difficult to determine. In fact, most of the impacts that need to be considered cannot be assigned a dollar value. Criteria would need to be deliberately limited to those involving broad areas such as trade, consumer information and compliance. If the draft variation is approved:

Consumers:

- There would be benefits in the broader availability of imported corn products as there would be no restriction on imported foods containing maize line MON 87427.
- There is unlikely to be any significant increase in the prices of imported foods if manufacturers are able to use comingled corn products.
- Consumers wishing to do so will be able to avoid GM corn products as a result of labeling requirements and marketing activities.

Government:

- Benefit that if maize line MON 87427 was detected in corn imports, approval would ensure compliance of those products with the Code. This would ensure no potential for trade disruption on regulatory grounds.
- Approval of maize line MON 87427 would ensure no potential conflict with WTO responsibilities.
- In the case of approved GM foods, monitoring is required to ensure compliance with the labelling requirements, and in the case of GM foods that have not been approved, monitoring is required to ensure they are not illegally entering the food supply. The costs of monitoring are thus expected to be comparable, whether a GM food is approved or not.

Industry:

- Importers of processed foods containing corn derivatives would benefit as foods derived from maize line MON 87427 would be compliant with the Code, allowing broader market access and increased choice in raw materials. Retailers may be able to offer a broader range of corn products or imported foods manufactured using corn derivatives.

- Possible cost to food industry as some food ingredients derived from maize line MON 87427 would be required to be labelled.

In addition, if the draft variation to permit the sale and use of food derived from MON 87427 was rejected it would result in the requirement for segregation of any products containing maize line MON 87427 from those containing approved maize lines, which would be likely to increase the costs of imported maize-derived foods. MON 87427 is a seed breeding technology and therefore will be present in a number of commercial seed varieties.

It is important to note that if the draft variation is approved maize line MON 87427 will not have a mandatory introduction. The consumer will always have the right to choose not to use/consume this product.”