



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 7/28/2005

GAIN Report Number: E35152

EU-25

Biotechnology

EFSA launches public consultation on post-market environmental monitoring

2005

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Report Highlights:

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has opened a public consultation on the Post Market Environmental Monitoring (PMEM) of biotech plants. This would be done to ensure the general surveillance of the impact of biotech plants on the environment.

The Surveillance is intended to detect and monitor any possible unforeseen or unanticipated adverse effects on the environment following market introduction.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Brussels USEU [BE2]
[E3]

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has opened a public consultation on the Post Market Environmental Monitoring (PMEM) of Genetically Modified (GM) plants. In a new chapter of EFSA's Guidance Document for the Risk Assessment of GM plants the Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) has outlined an approach to ensure the general surveillance of the impact of GM plants on the environment. This surveillance is intended to detect and monitor any possible unforeseen or unanticipated adverse effects on the environment following market introduction. The on-line consultation will be open until September 15, 2005.

At present PMEM is carried out by applicants for GM plant authorizations under the terms of [Directive 2001/18/EC](#), on the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms into the environment and existing European Commission guidance note to applicants. EFSA's guidance on PMEM, once adopted, will eventually also be used by applicants for GMO authorizations in the environmental monitoring plans foreseen in the Directive.

EFSA has held workshops on PMEM with experts from industry, environmental groups and Member States (MS) and is now starting a wider consultation process and wants input from stakeholders and interested parties on the PMEM and general surveillance procedure before September 15, 2005.

To read the Commission working document click [here¹](#).

To read the Commissions guidance document on risk assessment click [here²](#).

Visit our website: our website www.useu.be/agri/usda.html provides a broad range of useful information on EU import rules and food laws and allows easy access to USEU reports, trade information and other practical information.

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Related reports from USEU Brussels:

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E35126	Environmental Council votes no to lifting biotech bans	06/29/05
E35091	Annual Biotechnology report	05/13/05
E35074	Register of existing GM food and feed products published by the Commission	04/21/05
E35044	Recent Biotech Developments in the EU	03/03/05
E35008	The EU's Biotech Regulatory Process: Who's Being Protected	01/13/05
These reports can be accessed through our website www.useu.be/agri or through the FAS website http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/attacherep/default.asp .		

¹ http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/gmo/gmo_consultations/1034/gmo_consultation_pmem_en1.pdf

² http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/gmo/gmo_guidance/660/guidance_docfinal1.pdf