

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** European Commission Authorizes Seven GE Crops for Import

**Country:** European Union

**Post:** Brussels USEU

**Report Category:** Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies

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**Report Highlights:**

On June 21, 2023, the European Commission (EC) approved three genetically engineered (GE) corn crops and renewed the authorization for three soybean crops and one cotton crop used for food and animal feed. The authorizations were published in the European Union's Official Journal on June 22, 2022, and they remain valid for 10 years.

## General Information:

On June 21, 2023, the European Commission (EC) approved three genetically engineered (GE) corn crops and renewed the authorization for three soybean crops and one cotton crop used for food and animal feed. These seven crops have all gone through a comprehensive and stringent authorization procedure, including a favorable scientific assessment by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The authorization and renewal decisions apply to food and feed for import and processing, but do not cover cultivation and are valid for 10 years. All products will be subject to the EU's strict labelling and traceability rules.

The Commission Implementing Decisions for the authorizations were published in the [Official Journal of the European Union, L 159, 22 June 2023](#):

- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1207 of 21 June 2023 renewing the authorization for placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 87701 × MON 89788 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1208 of 21 June 2023 authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 95379 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1209 of 21 June 2023 authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize DP4114 x MON89034 x MON87411 x DAS-40278-9 and its sub-combinations DAS-40278-9 x DP4114 x MON 87411, MON 89034 x DP4114 x MON 87411, MON 89034 x DAS-40278-9 x MON 87411, MON 89034 x DAS-40278-9 x DP4114, DP4114 x MON 87411, DAS-40278-9 x MON 87411, DAS-40278-9 x DP4114, MON 89034 x DP4114, pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1210 of 21 June 2023 renewing the authorization for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified cotton 281-24-236 × 3006-210-23 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1211 of 21 June 2023 authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 87429 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1212 of 21 June 2023 renewing the authorization for placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 87701 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1213 of 21 June 2023 renewing the authorization for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean 40-3-2 \(MON-Ø4Ø32-6\) pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.](#)

**Authorization Process:**

All GE crops have gone through the EU's full authorization procedure, including a favorable scientific assessment by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), as set in Directive 2001/18/EC. After a positive evaluation by EFSA, the EC puts forward a proposal for the authorization of the events that must be voted at the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF) for Genetically Modified Food and Feed and Environmental Risk by EU Member State (MS) representatives. A positive outcome in the PAFF Committee requires a qualified majority. Member States did not reach a qualified majority either in favor or against the GE crops at the Standing Committees and at the subsequent Appeal Committees thus the Commission has the legal duty to proceed with the authorizations.

**Consideration and Outlook:**

These seven events were approved during subsequent PAFF Committee meetings on February 21, 2023 and March 31, 2023. The Appeal Committee meetings then took place on March 23, 2023 and May 11, 2023. This is the second group of GE crops that the Commission has approved in 2023.

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.