

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: European Commission Authorizes Four 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 October 13, 2023, the European Commission authorized four genetically engineered maize crops for import as food and animal feed, including three full approvals and one renewal. The authorizations were published in the European Union's Official Journal on October 17, 2023, and they remain valid for 10 years.

General Information:

On October 13, 2023, the European Commission authorized four genetically engineered maize crops for import as food and animal feed, including three full approvals and one renewal. These four 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, October 17, 2023:

- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/2133 of 13 October 2023 authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 89034 × 1507 × MIR162 × NK603 × DAS-40278-9 and nine sub-combinations, pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2023\) 6739\).](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/2134 of 13 October 2023 authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 87419 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2023\) 6729\).](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/2132 of 13 October 2023 authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize GA21 × T25 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2023\) 6735\).](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/2143 of 13 October 2023 renewing the authorization for placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MIR162 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Implementing Decisions \(EU\) 2016/1685, \(EU\) 2019/1305 and \(EU\) 2019/2087 as regards the reference material \(notified under document C\(2023\) 6736\).](#)

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 four events were approved during subsequent PAFF Committee meetings on June 1, 2023, and July 3, 2023. The Appeal Committee meetings then took place on July 6, 2023, and September 8, 2023. This is the third group of GE crops that the Commission has approved in 2023.

Attachments:

No Attachments.