



# **GM Food Safety: Philippine Regulations and Food Safety Assessment**



# Institutional framework

- What are the bodies (authorities) involved in regulation and risk assessment of GMOs?

**Department of Agriculture Order No.8 s. 2002**, “Rules and Regulations on the Importation and Release of Plant and Plant Products Derived From the Use of Modern Biotechnology”

Currently, regulation covers only plant and plant products derived from modern biotechnology.

## **BIOSAFETY AGENCIES:**

Department of Agriculture: responsible for the safety of primary food

Regulatory tool – biosafety permit for the importation of regulated article for food and feed and processing (FFP); contains risk management measures, as applicable

# Institutional framework

- Within the Department of Agriculture:
  - **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)**
    - as the entry point for the permit application and the agency who issues the permit based on an over-all risk assessment
  - **Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS)**
    - for food safety, if the regulated article is a raw agriculture product intended for direct use as food or processing
  - **Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)**
    - for feed safety, if the regulated article is intended for direct use as feed or processing into feed
- Scientific and Technical Review Panel – consists of scientists outside the DA who will do a risk assessment
- Use of a Risk Assessment Form

# Institutional framework

- **Policy:**

No regulated article shall be allowed importation for direct use as food, feed, or for processing, unless:

- (i) the importation has been duly authorized by BPI
- (ii) the regulated article has been authorized for commercial distribution as food or feed, as the case may be, in the country of origin, and
- (iii) regardless of the intended use, the regulated articles poses no significant risks to human and animal health.

# Institutional framework

- For propagation of regulated article, no regulated article shall be released for propagation unless:
  - (iii) food and/or feed safety studies show that the regulated article will not pose any significant risks to human and animal health

# Institutional framework

- Risk Assessment is based on the Codex Guideline for the Conduct of Food Safety Assessment of Foods Derived From the Use of Recombinant DNA
- For single events and pyramided trait products, a full risk assessment is required
- For plant products carrying stacked genes conferred through conventional breeding, individual traits should have prior approval. A determination of possible or expected interaction between genes shall be determined based on documentary risk assessment that includes gene product interaction, metabolic pathways, gene expression and performance.

# GM Food Safety Assessment

RISK ANALYSIS REPORT FOR GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANT FOR DIRECT USE AS FOOD OR FEED, OR FOR PROCESSING

## BASIC INFORMATION

Applicant	Event
Contact	Trait Description
Information	Trait Introduction
Host Organism	Method
Proposed Use	
Date Received	Status

THE HOST ORGANISM - Scientific name: \_\_\_\_\_

TO BE FILLED UP BY THE APPLICANT					TO BE FILLED UP BY THE ASSESSOR
	Yes	No		Cross Reference of Document(s) Submitted	Remarks/Recommendations
Source of key nutrients?			If yes, describe		
Source of antinutrients?			If yes, describe		
Source of toxicants?			If yes, describe		
Source of allergens?			If yes, describe		

# Data contribution to the Platform

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
for a world without hunger

Google Custom Search

FAO Home

Food safety and quality  
GM Foods Platform

Browse information by

- OECD Unique Identifier
- Commodity
- Trait
- Country

Resources

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## FAO GM Foods Platform

Browse information by Country > Philippines

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
OECD Unique Identifier	Commodity	Traits	Latest entry uploaded on			
ACS-GM005-3	Soyabean / Soybeans	Glufosinate tolerance	26/11/2013			
ACS-GM005-4	Soyabean / Soybeans	Glufosinate tolerance	26/11/2013			
ACS-OS002-5	Rice	Glufosinate tolerance	26/11/2013			
ACS-ZM003-2	Corn / Maize	Glufosinate tolerance	26/11/2013			
BPS-CV127-9	Soyabean / Soybeans	imidazolinone tolerance	26/11/2013			
DAS-59122-7	Corn / Maize	Coleoptera resistance, Glufosinate tolerance	26/11/2013			
DAS-59122-7xDAS-01507-1xMON-00603-6	Corn / Maize	Coleoptera resistance, Glufosinate tolerance, Glyphosate tolerance, Lepidoptera resistance	17/12/2013			
DAS-59122-7xMON-00603-6	Corn / Maize	Coleoptera resistance, Glufosinate tolerance, Glyphosate tolerance	17/12/2013			
DAS-01507-1	Corn / Maize	Glufosinate tolerance, Lepidoptera resistance	26/11/2013			
DAS-01507-1 x DAS-59122-7 x MON-00810-6 x SYN-IR604-5 x MON-00603-6	Corn / Maize	Glyphosate tolerance, Lepidoptera resistance, Coleoptera resistance, Glufosinate tolerance	04/11/2014			

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

GM products no longer approved

Contact information

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Country information about GM food safety assessment

Introduction national biosafety regulations:

The Philippines is the first ASEAN country to establish a modern regulatory system for modern biotechnology. The country's biosafety regulatory system follows strict scientific standards and has become a model for member-countries of the ASEAN seeking to become producers of agricultural biotechnology crops. Concerns on biosafety in the Philippines started as early as 1967 when scientists from the University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB) and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the Quarantine Officer of the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) and the Director for Crops of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) recognized the potential for harm of the introduction of exotic species and genetic engineering. The joint committee formed the biosafety protocols and guidelines for genetic engineering and related research activities for UPLB and IRRI researchers. This proposal was eventually adopted into a Philippine Biosafety policy by virtue of Executive Order No 430, Series of 1990, issued by then President Corason C. Aquino on October 15, 1990, which created the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines (NCBP). The NCBP formulates, reviews and amends national policy on biosafety and formulates guidelines on the conduct of activities on genetic engineering. The NCBP comprised of representative from the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Health (DOH), and Department of Science and Technology (DOST), 4 scientists in biology, environmental science, social science and physical science and 2 respected members of the community. The Philippines' Law, Executive Order No 514 (EO514), Series of 2005 entitled "Establishing the National Biosafety Framework (NBF), Prescribing Guidelines for its Implementation, Strengthening the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines, and for Other Purposes was also issued. This order sets the establishment of the departmental biosafety committees in the DA, DENR, DOH and DOST. The mandates jurisdiction and other powers of all departments and agencies in relation to biosafety and biotechnology is guided by the NBF in coordination with the NCBP and each other in exercising its power. The Department of Agriculture (DA) issued Administrative Order No 5, Series of 2002, (DA AO5, 2002), which is part of EO 514, for the implementation of guidelines for the importation and

## Country status in the Platform:

- 2 Focal Points (Ms Merle Palacpac and Ms Ma. Lorelie Agbagala)
- Country profile filled out
- Risk assessment data shared (69 records)
- Link created



# Value of the Platform for Philippines

- For risk assessment work, access to relevant data bases:
  - ✓ For updates on risk assessment parameters
  - ✓ For reference to other countries' risk assessments
  - ✓ In case of technical issues/data gaps in risk assessment, can refer to existing data bases
- Tool for emergency response in case of Low Level Presence (LLP) of GM
- For monitoring, as approval of other countries of transformation events is considered in decision making

# Possible FAO's roles on the topic

- Capacity development assistance
- Include in the Platform, information on relevant emerging issues on food safety assessment of GM Food
- Webinars and other activities to keep the Platform community active
- Assistance in the development of a communication network between regulators from countries



**END**



**<http://biotech.da.gov.ph>**