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European Food Safety Authority

EFSA in focus PLANTS

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Contents

> Key topics

EFSA delivers new scientific opinion on assessing the possible allergenicity of GMOs

In July, EFSA's Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Panel adopted a scientific opinion on strategies for assessing the risk of allergenicity of GM plants and microorganisms and derived food and feed. This opinion is part of EFSA's ongoing effort to ensure that its risk assessment always reflects the latest scientific developments and addresses the widest range of potential concerns. Recommendations in the opinion are provided to update and complement EFSA's allergenicity assessment of GM plants and microorganisms, and derived food and feed.

The final opinion takes into consideration a total of 181 comments, received during a 10-week public consultation, from 17 interested parties including: national assessment bodies, non-governmental organisations, business associations and universities, as well as individuals.

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> STOP PRESS

EFSA updates guidance on environmental impact of GM plants

Scientific experts on EFSA's GMO Panel have updated and further developed its guidance for the environmental assessment of GM applications submitted for authorisation in the EU, in particular with respect to data generation, collection and analysis. The ERA guidance document also addresses the evaluation of possible long-term effects of GM plants and potential effects on non-target organisms (NTOs)

For more information.

Comments mostly addressed the issue of how to implement the general approach for assessing the allergenicity of GMOs, as well as how to interpret the results of the methods discussed in the opinion. Some comments also covered more technical aspects and are addressed in a series of specific annexes to the opinion.

GM food and feed could contain quantities of new or existing proteins which might cause food allergies in people and animals. EU legislation therefore requires that the allergenicity of GMOs, and food and feed derived from GMOs, be assessed before they can be placed on the market.

EFSA's GMO Panel initiated this work in order to review and update current methodologies used to assess the allergenic potential of GM plants and microorganisms. In its opinion, the Panel concludes that, as there is no single test to assess the allergenicity of a GM food or feed, a case-by-case evaluation based on a weight-of-evidence approach is the most appropriate way to do this.

In the opinion, the Panel describes how to analyse the sequence of the proteins in order to identify possible similarities with known allergens; how to test the potential of the proteins to bind with specific antibodies (suggesting they could trigger an allergic reaction); and how to assess the breakdown of the protein during digestion. In addition to assessing the new protein, the Panel recommends that for crops known to be allergenic, the whole GM plant is tested for allergenicity.

For more information.

Towards specific protection goals for assessing the environmental risks of pesticides

EFSA has developed a way to derive specific protection goals (what to protect, where and when) as part of its work to develop robust environmental risk assessment procedures for pesticides.

Under existing EU legislation, general protection goals exist. However, for detailed environmental risk assessments, specific goals are needed.

EFSA's Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR) has developed an approach to define such goals. The Panel suggests identifying the types of benefits, known as 'services', that ecosystems provide (pollination, the formation of soil, etc.) that may be affected by pesticides. The main groups of organisms that are playing a crucial role in these processes also need to be identified. For example, bees pollinate flowers, earthworms are involved in the formation of soil, and so on. To prepare the basis for taking decisions on what, where, and at which scale to protect these key groups of organisms and the overall ecosystem services, specific protection goals can be formulated.

Using this approach, the Panel identified seven groups of organisms covering all ecosystem processes which could potentially be affected by the use of pesticides. The groups are: microbes, algae, non-target plants (aquatic and terrestrial), aquatic invertebrates, terrestrial non-target arthropods including honeybees, terrestrial non-arthropod invertebrates, and vertebrates. The Panel also suggested defining the specific protection goals according to what needs to be protected, to what extent, over how big an area and for what timeframe. The characteristics of what is being protected also need to be considered when defining the goals. In addition, the goals should indicate the overall confidence in the desired level of protection.

EFSA has discussed the approach with risk managers and stakeholders in workshops in Parma and Brussels. EFSA intends using this approach to revise its ecotoxicology guidance documents.

For more information.

Regional approach to pesticides in soil improves accuracy

EFSA has developed an approach for defining similar areas of soil to make pesticide exposure scenarios better mimic actual conditions. Defining such areas, called ecoregions, would ultimately help to refine the assessment of the risks from pesticides to the environment.

Currently pesticide risk assessments use a common exposure scenario for the entire EU based on the total concentration in the top 5 cm of soil. Therefore, EFSA's Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR) sought to define ecologically relevant exposure scenarios using soil ecoregion maps. These soil ecoregions would be mapped according to the composition of soil organism communities (incorporating ecological and biogeographical aspects), as well as climatic and soil properties. The Panel developed a method to define such ecoregions, chosing three regions to represent diverse climatic conditions in Europe from north to south.

The Panel used the distribution of various soil invertebrates (earthworms, potworms, springtails and woodlice) in Finland, Germany and Portugal to test its approach. The approach showed that the distribution of the invertebrates at different depths in the soil differs between the three countries and can be predicted based on existing ecological and biogeographical information available about these invertebrates.

This information about the predicted distribution, together with exposure to ecotoxicological relevant concentrations of the pesticide, could be used to assess more realistically the risk of a pesticide for soil organisms. For example defining worst case

scenarios for invertebrates, typically found at certain soil depths. For risk assessments of short term exposure to pesticides, the Panel considered that a soil depth of 0-1 cm or using leaf litter would be more realistic than basing risk assessments on depths of 0-5 cm.

The Panel also acknowledged that more complete data sets and systematic biogeographical data collection would improve the predictions.

For more information.

New research results on EU consumers' perceptions of food-related risks

The majority of Europeans associate food and eating with enjoyment. According to a new Eurobarometer survey, those who are concerned about possible food-related risks tend to worry more about chemical contamination of food rather than bacterial contamination or health and nutrition issues. The poll also showed most Europeans have confidence in national and European food safety agencies as information sources on possible risks associated with food.

"Understanding consumers' perception of risk is critical to providing timely, clear and effective communications regarding food safety. The Eurobarometer findings highlight the importance of EFSA's work and reaffirm the Authority as a trusted source of information. Moving forward, EFSA will use these learnings to help shape the future of its work in communications," said European Food Safety Authority Executive Director Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle.

When asked about their perceptions of food, the majority of respondents associated to a large extent food and eating with enjoyment, such as selecting fresh and tasty food (58%), or the pleasure of having meals with family and friends (54%). Less than half of respondents (44%) focused on concerns such as looking for affordable prices and satisfying hunger. Fewer respondents were concerned about the safety of food (37%) or nutritional issues such as checking calories and nutrients (23%).

EUROBAROMETER

When placed in the context of other risks that could personally affect them, more EU citizens ranked the economic crisis (20%) and environmental pollution (18%) as very likely to affect their lives compared with the possible risk of food damaging their health (11%).

Public concerns about food-related risks

No single widespread concern about food-related risks was mentioned spontaneously by a majority of respondents – 19% cited chemicals, pesticides and other substances as the major concerns, while 1 in 10 answered that there was no problem at all with food.

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When then prompted by a list of possible issues associated with food, respondents mentioned as risks to be "very worried" about: chemical residues from pesticides in fruit, vegetables and cereals 31% (up 3 percentage points compared to 2005); antibiotics or hormones in meat 30% (up 3 points on 2005); cloning animals for food products 30% and pollutants such as mercury in fish and dioxins in pork 29% (up 3 points on 2005). Fewer people were "very worried" about bacterial contamination of foods (23%) and even fewer about possible nutritional risks like putting on weight (15%) or not having a healthy/balanced diet (15%).

Public confidence in information sources on food-related risks

The survey found that EU citizens expressed the highest level of confidence in information obtained from doctors and other health professionals (84%), followed by family and friends (82%), consumer organisations (76%), scientists (73%) and environmental protection groups (71%). National and European food safety agencies (EFSA) and EU institutions drew a relatively high level of confidence at 64% and 57% respectively, with national governments at 47%.

Asked how they respond to information on food-related matters communicated in the media or on the Internet, around half said they ignored stories in the media or worried about them but did not change their eating habits. There appears to be a greater tendency to ignore information regarding diet and health issues (29%) than food safety-related risks (24%).

EU food safety system – consumers feel protected

There is broad agreement that public authorities do a lot to ensure that food is safe in Europe, that public authorities are quick to act, base their decisions on scientific evidence and do a good job in informing people about food-related risks. The level of agreement is higher than in 2005. Opinion is more divided on whether scientific advice and public authorities are independent from other interests. While 46% of respondents agree that public authorities in the EU view the health of citizens as more important than the profits of producers (up 7 percentage points on 2005), 42% disagree with this statement and 12% said they do not know. More than 81% of respondents believe public authorities should do more to ensure that food is healthy and to inform people about healthy diets and lifestyles.

"This survey really gives us a fascinating insight into what Europeans are currently thinking about food and possible risks associated with food and we are happy to be able to share the findings with our colleagues in EU Member States," said EFSA Director of Communications Anne-Laure Gassin. *"It is also positive to see food is associated with pleasure, that national and European food safety agencies are thought to be doing a good job and, in particular, that scientists are very much viewed as trusted sources of information."*

The Eurobarometer findings will provide an important resource for carrying out further research on the relation between trust in information sources, confidence in public authorities and perception of food-related risks.

For more information.

EFSA seeks external experts to review the quality of its scientific outputs

Committed to the continuous enhancement of its scientific work, the European Food Safety Authority will organise the second external review of the quality of its scientific outputs. In order to benefit from an external perspective on its scientific work, EFSA launched a call to extend the list of experts who have not been involved in the development of its scientific outputs during the last two years and would be willing to participate in this evaluation. The final deadline for submitting an application to be included in this list of external experts was 15 December 2010.

The call sought scientific experts to help EFSA assess whether best practices are followed in the development of its scientific outputs. When conducting the external review, experts will examine the quality of practices used for collecting, evaluating and describing scientific data. They will assess whether conclusions and recommendations made in the outputs were adequately supported by scientific evidence and how any uncertainties were addressed. The experts will also consider whether the terms of reference were properly adhered to in the scientific outputs and in their conclusions.

The selected external experts will be included in an External Review Working Group and a reserve list will be created. The Working Group will cover the following areas of activity: chemical risk assessment; nutrition and novel foods; biological risk assessment and zoonoses data collection; animal health and welfare; plant health; GMOs; risk assessment methodologies and emerging risks.

For more information.

Consumers trust national food safety agencies and EFSA

Nearly two thirds of European consumers find national food safety agencies and EFSA to be trusted sources of information on food risks, according to the results of a Europe-wide survey carried out in June 2010 (see page 3).

EFSA was established in 2002 to provide robust independent scientific advice to risk managers in the EU, free from political or economic influence, and to help rebuild consumer trust in Europe's food safety system following the food crises of the 1990s. To gauge how far the EU has travelled along the road to regaining trust, EFSA commissioned a Eurobarometer survey of consumers across Europe. The survey also looked at consumers' confidence in food and their concerns about the possible risks associated with food.

The results showed that over 60% of consumers say that public authorities do a lot to ensure food is safe, and that they base their decisions on scientific evidence. 73% of consumers trust scientists and 64% trust national agencies and EFSA as providers of food safety information. Such findings complement the results from research among the Authority's target audiences who said that they did not want to go back to the "pre-EFSA days". This target audience research also revealed that partners and stakeholders across Europe clearly recognise EFSA's scientific independence. EFSA's efforts to be open and transparent were acknowledged, although it was felt that more could be done by EFSA to become even more transparent.

EFSA's commitment to openness, transparency and independence is a common thread woven through everything it does. EFSA's network of 1500 experts are carefully selected against a transparent set of criteria. Panel members are chosen through a process that is independently reviewed by external evaluators. All experts must submit declarations of interests every year, and before attending meetings. Each year, EFSA screens over 7000 declarations. If conflicts of interest are identified, experts can be excluded from the working group or from working on particular issues. All declarations are made public on EFSA's website. EFSA staff and management must also complete annual declarations of interest.

The Authority makes its work publicly available in a timely manner. Visitors to its website can find out detailed information on what EFSA is currently working on. The minutes and agendas of its panel meetings are published online. Scientific outputs, developed following good risk assessment practices, are adopted collectively by members of EFSA's scientific panels and made accessible online. Any minority opinions or conflicts are recorded in the published opinions. Management Board meetings are publicly webcast. In addition, EFSA reviews its work internally, as well as with the help of external experts. This feedback mechanism helps the Authority to continue to deliver high quality scientific advice.

This drive to improve is constant in EFSA's work. Currently, the Authority is reviewing and further reinforcing its policy on independence. This review, fed by reports from external consultants, will be discussed by EFSA's Management Board. EFSA will also invite comments from outside EFSA on this policy in an interactive Management Board session, as part of the Authority's commitment to maintain its independence and a high level of trust in its work.

For more information.

> Working together

EFSA networks: Capitalising on Member State expertise

As Europe's food safety authority, EFSA cooperates closely with national food safety agencies to assess food-related risks. EFSA's thematic networks are a vital part of EFSA's Strategy on Cooperation and Networking with EU Member States to capitalise on the breadth and depth of scientific knowledge across Europe.

EFSA chairs each network. Each network consists of nationally appointed EU Member State organisations with expertise in a given area. These organisations then appoint the members who actually take part in the network meetings. European Commission representatives may participate in the work of the networks. Other organisations, including those from outside the EU with specific expertise may also be invited to participate in the networks as observers.

The networks facilitate scientific cooperation through the exchange of information, expertise and best practice in a specific area. They also help support Member State cooperation by coordinating activities, that may lead to the development and implementation of joint projects.

Currently there are networks on: animal health and welfare; BSE/TSE; emerging risks; GMOs; microbiological risk assessment; plant health; harmonisation of risk assessment methodologies; two networks on pesticides; as well as three different data collection networks looking at chemical occurrence, food consumption and zoonoses.

For more information.

EFSA discusses environmental impact of GM plants with stakeholders

As part of its commitment to regular open dialogue, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) held a series of meetings with representatives of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and GM applicants on 28 and 29 September to discuss draft updated guidelines for the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) of Genetically Modified (GM) plants.

Recognising the specific interests of NGOs and GM applicants in the field of environmental safety assessment, EFSA will take into consideration their comments in the finalisation of the guidelines, EFSA took into consideration their comments in the finalisation of the guidelines, which were published in December 2010 together with a report on the public consultation (see stop press, p1).

In order to assess the safety of a GM plant submitted for authorisation in the EU, EFSA requires applicants to follow a set of mandatory guidelines which specify the type of data and information they should submit. The ERA guidelines, which are the result of more than two years' work by scientists from all over Europe, address specifically data requirements to assess the safety of GM plants for the environment. The guidelines also include a specific section on possible effects of GM plants on so-called non-target organisms, those insects which are not meant to be the target of toxins produced by some GM plants.

EFSA holds regular open dialogue with its stakeholders on the development of its scientific work. In December 2008, the Environment Council concluded that the implementation of the EU legal framework for GMOs should be reinforced. In line with these conclusions, EFSA had already initiated in 2007 a series of technical discussions to bring together EFSA's GMO experts, stakeholders and technical experts from the EU Member States.

The draft version of the ERA guidelines was launched for public consultation earlier this year and received 494 comments. Further discussions with Member States were held in Berlin in June this year to ensure that their views would also be taken into consideration. Representatives of the 18 countries at the meeting agreed that EFSA's updated ERA guidelines represented a significant step forward in GM plant environmental risk assessment.

For more information.

EFSA shares progress on its work on emerging risks

EFSA scientists organised a colloquium on emerging risks on 12-13 October bringing together a broad range of specialists from different fields of expertise, reflecting the complexity of this area of EFSA's work. During the 2-day colloquium, participants discussed the Authority's methodological framework for the identification of emerging risks related to the food supply chain.

The colloquium was attended by over 100 experts coming from 29 countries, including many pre-accession and potential candidate countries as well as the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

Among other topics, participants discussed: methods to identify emerging risks; sources of information and strategies for data collection; identification of drivers of change as underlying causes of emerging risks; EFSA's ability to engage with a broad range of experts from a wide variety of fields, stressing the importance of international collaboration; and potential challenges regarding communication on emerging risks in particular the need to ensure transparency in EFSA's work in this area without causing undue concern and the need for close coordination with risk managers.

Participants recognised the work that has been achieved to date and indicated that the on-going methodological developments are on the right track. Although there was general agreement that EFSA was the logical body to coordinate this area of scientific work, participants insisted that access to a broad spectrum of experts would be a critical success factor for the Authority's future work in this area. From EFSA's perspective, the colloquium provided valuable input for the future development of its work on emerging risks which will be discussed in different scientific fora and further developed in collaboration with risk assessors and managers. In addition, EFSA invites experts in this area to sign up to its expert database to assist the Authority in its work on emerging risks. As well as the traditional life science competencies typically associated with its risk assessment work, EFSA is seeking expertise from many other disciplines including food technologists, climate change specialists and international agricultural trade commodity experts.

For more information.

> Scientific contracts and grants

External reports published

Defining Environment Risk Assessment Criteria for Genetically Modified Insects to be placed on the EU Market
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/71e.htm

Report on the Activities realized within the Service Level Agreement between JRC and EFSA, as a support of the FATE Working Group of EFSA PPR in support of the revision of the guidance document Persistence in Soil
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/64e.htm

> Consultations

EFSA consults on the selection of open literature for the approval of pesticides

This autumn EFSA launched a public consultation on its draft guidance for identifying and selecting scientific peer-reviewed open literature on pesticide active substances.

Under EU law, applicants submitting dossiers for the approval of pesticide active substances must provide EFSA with scientific peer-reviewed literature which is publicly available, in other words open. EFSA has drafted guidance to help applicants to identify, select and then report on such literature.

The guidance is based on recognised best practices for evidence synthesis. The guidance is also consistent with the fundamental principles of systematic review, to ensure methodological rigour and transparency, and to minimise bias in the identification and selection of scientific information in dossiers.

Once finalised, this guidance will be used by applicants, Member States and EFSA.

For more information.

Consultation on EFSA's guidance on assessing exposure of soil organisms to plant protection products

EFSA has consulted on its guidance for evaluating and using the results of field persistence and soil accumulation experiments when assessing the exposure of soil organisms to substances in soil.

The draft guidance , developed by EFSA's Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR), is an update of the existing Guidance Document on Persistence in Soil as proposed by Member States. It consists of a methodology on how to calculate the half-life of plant protection products degrading in the top soil, in other words, how long it takes for half of the product to degrade. The guidance will also be useful for assessing the half-lives of substances leaching to ground and surface water.

Comments received from the consultation have been taken into consideration by the EFSA PPR Panel in finalising the guidance.

For more information.

EFSA consults on its guidance and opinion on dermal absorption

EFSA's Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR) launched an open consultation on its draft guidance and opinion on dermal absorption. The opinion describes the science behind the panel's guidance document.

Dermal absorption is the main route of exposure to pesticides for operators applying pesticides as well as for workers re-entering treated zones. Unprotected bystanders and residents can also be exposed accidentally. Thus, the assessment of dermal absorption for estimating possible health risks from pesticides resulting from these exposures is crucial.

EFSA is reviewing existing guidance on evaluating the dermal absorption for plant protection products that was last revised in 2004. The two draft documents have been reworked following the results of an earlier public consultation and preparatory work outsourced to the UK's Chemicals Regulation Directorate.

Comments received will be taken into considered by the EFSA PPR Panel in finalising the guidance.

For more information.

> Mandates accepted

Mandates accepted: June-September 2010

Information on all other on-going requests is available in EFSA's **register of questions.**

Assessment Methodology (AMU)

Statistical re-analysis of the Biel maze data of the Stump et al (2010) study

Deadline: **30-Sep-10** Mandate number: **M-2009-0273**

Internal Mandate proposed by EFSA to the Assessment Methodology Unit for an open call contract on the implementation of systematic reviews in EFSA scientific outputs workflow

Deadline: **30-Apr-13** Mandate number: **M-2010-0319**

Commodity based hazard identification protocol for emerging diseases in plants and animals

Deadline: **30-Apr-12** Mandate number: **M-2010-0234**

Public Consultation on the EFSA Guidance on submission of scientific peer-reviewed open literature for the approval of pesticide active substances under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009

Deadline: **28-Feb-11** Mandate number: **M-2009-0243**

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

Vitamin B2/Riboflavin for all animal species and categories

Deadline: **25-Feb-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0297**

Request to review the scientific basis of an opinion issued by Testbiotech concerning the application for market approval of genetically modified maize 1507 (DAS-Ø15Ø7-1) for cultivation

Deadline: **31-Oct-10** Mandate number: **M-2010-0270**

Application for authorisation of genetically modified maize MIR162 for food and feed uses, import and processing submitted under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 by Syngenta (EFSA-GMO-DE-2010-82)

Deadline: **6 month period** Mandate number: **M-2010-0290**

Application for authorisation of genetically modified Soybean MON87701 for food and feed uses, import and processing submitted under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 by Monsanto (EFSA-GMO-BE-2010-79)

Deadline: **6 month period** Mandate number: **M-2010-0217**

Plant Health (PLH)

Risk to plant health of plum pox virus for the EU territory (Sharka PPV)

Deadline: **31-Jul-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0250**

Risk to plant health of the solanaceous pospiviroids for the EU territory

Deadline: **31-Jul-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0248**

Risk to plant health of *Monilinia fructicola* for the EU territory

Deadline: **31-Mar-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0249**

Derogation request from the EU import requirements for bonsai and topiary trees that are host plants for *Anoplophora chinensis*

Deadline: **30-Sep-10** Mandate number: **M-2010-0267**

Appropriateness of a composting method proposed by Portugal as a heat treatment to eliminate pine wood nematode from bark of pine trees

Deadline: **31-Aug-10** Mandate number: **M-2010-0268**

Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)

Compilation of a database on ecotoxicological properties of active substances and plant protection products/ Technical support to the Commission (art. 31 of the Regulation no 178/2002)

Deadline: **31-Dec-12** Mandate number: **M-2010-0277**

Report on the Public consultation for the opinion on guidance for evaluating and using results of field persistence and soil accumulation experiments for exposure assessments of soil organisms to substances in soil

Deadline: **31-Dec-10** Mandate number: **M-2007-0151**

Pesticide Risk Assessment and Peer Review (PRAPeR)

Mandates related to residues

Between June and September 2010, EFSA has received requests:
- To assess MRL applications: EFSA received 40 requests under Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 to give a reasoned opinion on the modification of MRLs.
- To consider the Chinese comments regarding the toxicological assessment of nicotine;

Deadline: **01-Oct-10** Mandate number: **M-2010-0381**

Request for an EFSA peer review on the active substance:

2-naphthyloxyacetic acid

Deadline: **02-May-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0322**

Acetochlor

Deadline: **18-Apr-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0321**

Fluquinconazole

Deadline: **28-Feb-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0320**

Kresoxim-methyl

Deadline: **01-Oct-10** Mandate number: **M-2010-0264**

Triazoxide

Deadline: **01-Mar-11** Mandate number: **M-2010-0347**

Request for EFSA to organise a peer review and deliver its conclusions on confirmatory studies concerning the risk assessment for birds and mammals for chlorpyrifos

Deadline: **16-Dec-10** Mandate number: **M-2010-0247**

> Opinions and other outputs adopted

Opinions and other outputs adopted: June-September 2010

Disclaimer: This is not the **full list of all EFSA opinions** but only those considered relevant to this newsletter.

Assessment Methodology (AMU)

Statistical re-analysis of the Biel maze data of the Stump et al (2010) study: Developmental neurotoxicity study of dietary bisphenol A in Sprague-Dawley rats

Adopted on: **30-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-01142**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1836.htm

Technical report of EFSA prepared by the Assessment Methodology Unit on Quantitative pathway analysis of the exposure of the wheat production area with *Tilletia indica* M. teliospores one year after importation of US wheat for grain into the EU and desert durum wheat into Italy

Adopted on: **22-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00780**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1652.htm

Model-based comparative assessment of the Australian and European hygiene monitoring programmes for meat production

Adopted on: **04-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00350**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1450.htm

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

EFSA overall opinion on an application for authorisation of genetically modified maize MON89034 x 1507 x NK603 for food and feed uses, import and processing, submitted by Dow AgroSciences Europe and Monsanto Europe (EFSA-GMO-NL-2009-65)

Adopted on: **27-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00929**

EFSA overall opinion on an application for authorisation of genetically modified maize MON89034 x 1507 x MON88017 x 59122 for food and feed uses, import and processing, submitted by Dow AgroSciences Europe and Monsanto Europe (EFSA-GMO-CZ-2008-62)

Adopted on: **27-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00928**

Scientific Opinion on an application (EFSA-GMO-NL-2009-65) for the placing on the market of insect resistant and herbicide tolerant genetically modified maize MON 89034 × 1507 × NK603 and all sub-combinations of the individual events as present in its segregating progeny, for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 from Dow AgroSciences and Monsanto

Adopted on: **08-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00413**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1782.htm

Scientific Opinion on application (EFSA-GMO-CZ-2008-62) for the placing on the market of insect resistant and herbicide tolerant genetically modified maize MON 89034 x 1507 x MON 88017 x 59122 and all sub-combinations of the individual events as present in its segregating progeny, for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 from Dow AgroSciences and Monsanto

Adopted on: **08-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-764**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1781.htm

Outcome of the public consultation on the draft Scientific Opinion of the Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) on the assessment of allergenicity of GM plants and microorganisms and derived food and feed

Adopted on: **30-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00936**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1699.htm

Scientific Opinion on the assessment of allergenicity of GM plants and microorganisms and derived food and feed

Adopted on: **30-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2005-125**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1700.htm

Plant Health (PLH)

Scientific Opinion on a technical file submitted by the Japanese Authorities to support a derogation request from the EU import requirements for bonsai and topiary trees that are host plants of *Anoplophora chinensis*

Adopted on: **30-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00945**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1849.htm

Scientific Opinion on a composting method proposed by Portugal as a heat treatment to eliminate pine wood nematode from bark of pine trees

Adopted on: **27-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00946**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1717.htm

Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)

Scientific Opinion on the development of specific protection goal options for environmental risk assessment of pesticides, in particular in relation to the revision of the Guidance Documents on aquatic and terrestrial ecotoxicology

Adopted on: **22-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00861**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1821.htm

Scientific Opinion on the development of a soil ecoregions concept using distribution data on invertebrates

Adopted on: **22-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00859**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1820.htm

Modelling approach to estimate emission of plant protection products from protected crop systems to surface water in Mediterranean countries

Adopted on: **27-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00895**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1615.htm

Report on the PPR Stakeholder Workshop "Protection goals for environmental risk assessment of pesticides: What and where to protect?"

Published on: **05-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00108**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1672.htm

Selection of scenarios for exposure of soil organisms to plant protection products

Adopted on: **08-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00178**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1642.htm

Pesticide Risk Assessment and Peer Review Unit (PRAPeR)

Reasoned opinions

EFSA issued 16 reasoned opinions (under Article 10) on 97 MRLs, responding to 18 requests. In addition, EFSA provided 3 reasoned opinions (under Article 43) on specific questions regarding the MRLs for three active substances which are no longer authorised in the EU.
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/praper/mrls.htm

2008 Annual Report on Pesticide Residues

Adopted on: **15-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00601**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/doc/1646.pdf

Conclusions on the peer review of the active substances

1-decanol

Adopted on: **27-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00150**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1715.htm

6-benzyladenine

Adopted on: **27-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00148**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1716.htm

Bispyribac-sodium

Adopted on: **12-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00310**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1692.htm

Bromadiolone

Adopted on: **15-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00125**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1783.htm

Bromuconazole

Adopted on: **29-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00032**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1704.htm

Bupirimate

Adopted on: **20-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00131**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1786.htm

Clethodim

Adopted on: **10-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00129**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1771.htm.

Cycloxydim

Adopted on: **30-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00034**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1669.htm

Dazomet

Adopted on: **30-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00133**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1833.htm

Dichlobenil

Adopted on: **29-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00015**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1705.htm

Fenbutatin oxide

Adopted on: **23-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00112**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1711.htm

Fenoxycarb

Adopted on: **13-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00136**

Guazatine

Adopted on: **18-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00075**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1708.htm

Hexythiazox

Adopted on: **07-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00115**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1722.htm

Hymexazol

Adopted on: **24-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00949**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1653.htm

Indolylbutyric acid

Adopted on: **03-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00765**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1720.htm

Isoxaben

Adopted on: **27-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00107**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1714.htm

Myclobutanil

Adopted on: **11-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00035**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1682.htm

Oryzalin

Adopted on: **06-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00912**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1707.htm

Pencycuron

Adopted on: **24-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00076**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1828.htm

Opinions and other outputs adopted

Diclofop
Adopted on: **01-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00950**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1718.htm

Dicloran
Adopted on: **21-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00013**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1698.htm

Diethofencarb
Adopted on: **07-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00677**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1721.htm.

Ethoxyquin
Adopted on: **20-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00033**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1710.htm

Etridiazole
Adopted on: **24-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00147**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1823.htm

Propisochlor
Adopted on: **09-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00094**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1769.htm

Spiroxamine
Adopted on: **01-Sep-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00012**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1719.htm

Tau-fluvalinate
Adopted on: **17-Jun-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00014**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1645.htm

Tefluthrin
Adopted on: **20-Aug-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00135**

Zinc phosphide
Adopted on: **02-Jul-10** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00162**
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1671.htm

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