

United Nations Environment Programme





THE BCH III PROJECT

SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION in the Biosafety Clearing House

Prof Ossama AbdelKawy

2023

RECORDS

Introduced or modified genetic element(s) as tragments or truncated forms. Please see notes below, where applic Ethese genetic elements may be pre-BCH-GENE-SCBD-14972-12 PHOSPHINOTHRICIN N-ACETYLTRANSFERESE GENI Protein coding sequence | Resistance to herbicides (Glufosinate) BCH-GENE-SCBD-14985-12 CRY1AB | BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS - BT. BACILLUS, BACTU Protein coding sequence | Resistance to diseases and pests (Insects, Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths)) BCH_GENE_SCBD-14975-5 BETA-LACTAMASE GENE | (BACTERIA) Protein coding sequence [R sistance to antibiotics (Ampicillin) BCH-GENE-SCBD-100287-7 CAMV 5S PROMOTE BCH-GENE-SCBD-100290-6 CAMV 355 TERMINAT Terminator

Genetic element Promoter Terminator Marker gene Agrobacterium **Coding sequence Truncated** gene **Unique identifier Transformation** cassette Gene gun **Risk Assessment Detection and identification**

EN

EN

Description

This LMO contains two copies a truncated synthetic version of the full length *cry1Ab* gene from *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki*. The synthetic truncated *cry1Ab* gene encodes a protein that corresponds to the first 648 amino acids of the N-terminal of the 1155 amino acid full length native Cry1Ab protein and includes the portion of the native protein that is necessary for insect control.

Also note that the cassette has genetic elements belonging to corn to dupe the plant cell so that it does not recognize that
 Additional information concerning the bla gene insert in this LMO:
 The bla gene from Escherichia coli is not expressed in plant cells, but was employed as selectable trait or screening bacterial colonies for the presence of the plasmid vector.
 Additional information on the inserted genetic material:

LMO RECORD

https://bch.cbd.int/en/database/record?documentID=14750

LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISM (LMO)	🗹 BCH-LMO-SCBD-14750-19 🔓 PDF 👄 Print 🚀 Share 🦻 Compare 🔻
C Decisions on the LMO C Risk Assessments	PUBLISHED: 05 JUN 2006 LAST UPDATED: 24 MAY 2013
Living Modified Organism identity	
The image below identifies the LMO through its unique identifier, trade name and a link to this page of the BCH. Click	on it to download a larger image on your computer. For help on how to use it go to the LMO quick-links page.
https://bch.cbd.int/database/record?dou MON-ØØ81Ø-6 YieldGard™ maize CBD Read barcode or type above URL into internet browser to access information on this LMO in the Bi	umentD=14750
Name	
YieldGard [™] maize	EN
Transformation event	
MON810	
Does this LMO have a unique identifier?	
Yes	
Unique identifier	
MON-ØØ81Ø-6	
Developer(s)	

CPB. ART 3.

(i)

Use of Terms

For the purposes of this Protocol:

- (g) "Living modified organism" means any living organism that possesses a novel combination of genetic material obtained through the use of modern biotechnology;
 - "Modern biotechnology" means the application of:
 - a. In vitro nucleic acid techniques, including recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and direct injection of nucleic acid into cells or organelles, or
 - b. Fusion of cells beyond the taxonomic family,

that overcome natural physiological reproductive or recombination barriers and that are not techniques used in traditional breeding and selection;

GENETIC MATERIALS?



the medium by which inherited characteristic of a living organism are transmitted from one generation to the next

GENETIC CODE ?



Sequences of nucleic acids that contain instruction to direct and regulate the production of structural and functional proteins which are responsible for traits.

GENETIC CODE?



U

С

A

G

U C A

G

U

C

A

G

U

С

A

G

3rd bsae

Ribonucleic acid

It is universal in all living organisms with a negligible exceptions. Three consecutive bases (codon) code for one amino acid

GENETIC MATERIALS?



Within a cell, the genetic material is organized into smaller, discrete units called **genes** that are arranged on chromosomes and plasmids.

A gene is the basic physical and functional unit of heredity.

GENE EXPRESSION?



Is the synthesis of a specific protein with a sequence of amino acids that is encoded in the gene in a two steps process. The flow of genetic information to produce a messenger RNA (mRNA) molecule during the process of **transcription**. provides the information for the ribosome to catalyze protein synthesis in a process called **translation**.

GENE STRUCTURE



The process of transcription is initiated at the **promotor**. Introns are noncoding sections of an RNA transcript, or the DNA encoding it, that are spliced out before the mRNA molecule is translated into a protein. The sections of DNA (or RNA) that code for proteins are called **exons**. A terminator causes the transcription to stop.

SPECIES ?



- Is a group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or interbreeding to produce fertile offspring.

- Gene pool is the total genetic diversity found within a species.

GENETIC BARRIERS BETWEEN SPECIES



Each living cell is able to identify foreign genetic materials belonging to other species and would destroy it if it comes inside, which create **barriers** between species.



genetic material is altered or artificially introduced in vitro to induce a desirable new trait which does not occur naturally in the species. Inserted genes usually come from a different species.



An example is the genetically modified Cotton line MON531. It was genetically engineered to resist the bollwarms by producing its own insecticide. This line was developed by introducing the cry1Ac gene, isolated from the common soil bacterium Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt), into a cotton line by Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

GMO?



The **bollgard** possesses a novel combination of genetic material and in addition to the normal cotton genes it has genes inserted from a bacteria overcoming the natural physiological reproductive or recombination barriers

CPB. ART 3.

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 - a. In vitro nucleic acid techniques, including recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and direct injection of nucleic acid into cells or organelles, or
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that overcome natural physiological reproductive or recombination barriers and that are not techniques used in traditional breeding and selection;

LMO RECORD

https://bch.cbd.int/en/database/record?documentID=14750

LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISM (LMO)	🗹 BCH-LMO-SCBD-14750-19 🔓 PDF 🚔 Print 🖪 Share 🦻 Compare 🔻
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Name	
YieldGard [™] maize	EN
Transformation event	
MON810	
Does this LMO have a unique identifier?	
Yes	
Unique identifier	
MON-ØØ81Ø-6	
Developer(s)	

OVERVIEW ON THE PROCESS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING

- A gene(s) of interest identified and isolated from a donor organism
- Then manipulated in the laboratory to enhance or modulate the expression of the gene once it is introduced into the intended recipient organism
- The manipulated gene of interest, as well as other nucleotide sequences needed for the proper functioning of the gene(s) of interest, may then be built in an orderly sequence into a "transformation cassette"

TRANSFORMATION CASSETTE



The transformation cassette typically includes a "promoter sequence" (regulate gene expression) and "termination sequence" which are necessary to ensure that the gene is expressed correctly in the recipient organism.

TRANSFORMATION CASSETTE



A "marker gene" is often incorporated into the transformation cassette to help identify and/or select cells or individuals in which the transformation cassette(s) was successfully introduced. In some cases, it is removed from the LMOs at a later stage

TRANSFORMATION CASSETTE



- The transformation cassette may be incorporated into a larger DNA molecule to be used as **vector**. The purpose of the vector is to assist the transfer of the transformation cassette into the recipient organism

MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES

https://bch.cbd.int/en/database/record?documentID=14750

LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISM (LMO)	🗹 BCH-LMO-SCBD-14750-19 🔓 PDF 🚔 Print 🖪 Share 🤊 Compare 🔻
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https://bch.cbd.int/database/record?docume MON-ØØ81Ø-6 YieldGard ** maize CBD Read barcode or type above URL into internet browser to access information on this LMO in the Biosafe	ety Clearing-House © 5CBD 2012
Name	
YieldGard™ maize	EN
Transformation event	
MON810	
Does this LMO have a unique identifier?	
Yes	
Unique identifier	
MON-ØØ81Ø-6	
Developer(s)	

OVERVIEW ON THE PROCESS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING

- Finally, the transformation cassettes are integrated into the genome of the recipient organism through a process known as transformation. This can be carried out through different methods such as infection using Agrobacterium or particle bombardment or microinjection.

OVERVIEW ON THE PROCESS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING



COMMONLY USED METHODS IN GENETIC ENGINEERING

- Agrobacterium tumefaciens (Rhizobium radiobacter) is the causal agent of crown gall disease (the formation of tumors) in over 140 species of eudicots. It is a rod-shaped, Gramnegative soil bacterium.



TRANSFORMATION USING AGROBACTERIUM

- Tumors caused by Agrobacterium tumefaciens occur by transfer of DNA from the bacterium Ti plasmid (tumor-inducing plasmids)which integrates into the infected plant cell's genome producing tumors in plants.

- Researchers manipulate the Ti plasmids to remove the tumor-causing genes and insert the desired DNA fragment for transfer into the plant genome.



TRANSFORMATION USING GENE GUN

- for the physical introduction of DNA into plant cells containing cell walls. The gene gun is utilized to bombard the plant cell wall with many DNA coated metal particles by using compressed helium as the propellant.

- After the DNA-coated particles have been delivered to the cells, the DNA is used as a template for transcription (transient expression) and sometimes it integrates into a plant chromosome ('stable' transformation).





LMO PLANT GENERATION

- Transformed cells are then selected, e.g. with the help of a marker gene
- Then are treated with series of plant hormones, such as auxins and gibberellins, to divide and differentiate into an entire plant.
- The new plant that originated from a successfully transformed cell have new traits that are heritable (LMO).



Genetic Element Registry

Total records: 928				I Export
Record ID	Unique identification	Identity & transformation event	Organism	Description
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 114444-1	AAT-7Ø9AA-4	Pod Borer-resistant cowpea AAT709A	Vigna unguiculata Cowpea, Black eyed pea	Resistance to diseases and pests - Insects - Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths), Resistance to antibiotics - Kanamycin
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 14752-6	ACS-BNØ11-5	Navigator™ canola Oxy-235	Brassica napus Turnip, Rapeseed, Canola Plant, Oilseed Rape, Rape, BRANA	Resistance to herbicides - Bromoxynil
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 15101-6	ACS-BNØ1Ø-4	Falcon™ rapeseed GS40/90pHoe6/Ac	Brassica napus Turnip, Rapeseed, Canola Plant, Oilseed Rape, Rape, BRANA	Resistance to herbicides - Glufosinate
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 14753-6	ACS-BNØØ1-4	InVigor™ canola RF1 (B93-101)	Brassica napus Turnip, Rapeseed, Canola Plant, Oilseed Rape, Rape, BRANA	Resistance to herbicides - Glufosinate, Resistance to antibiotics - Kanamycin, Changes in physiology and/or production - Fertility restoration
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 14754-5	ACS-BNØØ2-5	InVigor™ canola RF2 (B94-2)	Brassica napus Turnip, Rapeseed, Canola Plant, Oilseed Rape, Rape, BRANA	Resistance to herbicides - Glufosinate, Resistance to antibiotics - Kanamycin, Changes in physiology and/or production - Fertility restoration
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 14755-7	ACS-BNØØ3-6	InVigor™ canola RF3	Brassica napus Turnip, Rapeseed, Canola Plant, Oilseed Rape, Rape, BRANA	Resistance to herbicides - Glufosinate, Changes in physiology and/or production - Fertility restoration
BCH-LMO-SCBD- 116285-1	ACS-BNØØ3-6 × MON-ØØØ73-7	Herbicide tolerant, male fertility restoring canola RF3 × RT73	Brassica napus Turnip, Rapeseed, Canola Plant, Oilseed	Resistance to herbicides - Glufosinate, Glyphosate, Changes in physiology and/or production - Reproduction, Fertility restoration

 \mathbf{w}

WHAT IS A UNIQUE IDENTIFIER?

- It is a digital alpha numeric code for each living modified plant that is approved for commercial use, including for use as food or feed.

- Unique Identifiers are generated by the developers of a new transgenic plant, and included in the dossiers that they forward to national authorities during the safety assessment process.

- Once approved, national authorities can then forward the unique identifier to the OECD Secretariat for inclusion in the OECD's product database, from which the information is automatically shared with the Biosafety Clearing-House.

WHAT IS A UNIQUE IDENTIFIER?

- In accordance with the Cartagena Protocol, it is expected that the Unique identifier for LMOs intended for direct use as food, feed or for processing (decisions taken under Art. 11) to be available, since most of these organisms are expected to be approved for use in trade.

- The Third Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol also requested Governments to provide information on the unique identifier, where it exists, when decisions taken under the Advanced informed agreement are registered.

UNDERSTANDING THE CODE



WHAT IS A STACKED LMO?

- It is an LMO possessing new traits resulting from more than one transformation cassette. It can be produced by several approaches including conventional cross-breeding involving two LMOs that are either single transformation events or already stacked events, transformation of an LMO or simultaneous transformation with different transformation cassettes or vectors.

- Accordingly, the cassettes containing the transgenes and other genetic elements that were inserted in the original transformation events may be physically unlinked (i.e. located separately in the genome) and can segregate independently.

- Stacked LMOs may occur in the field in cross pollinating plants like maize (corn) if more than one LMO are planted in vicinity of each other.

UNDERSTANDING THE CODE

- For stacked LMOs, the unique identifiers show the multiple GM events that were combined.

BCS-BNØ12-7 X ACS-BNØØ3-6 X MON-883Ø2-9

BCS-GHØØ2-5 X BCS-GHØØ4-7

LMO with 3 stacked events

LMO with 2 stacked events

DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF LMOS

1

Detection method(s)
External link(s)
& ACS-BNØØ3-6 - EU Reference Laboratory for GM Food and Feed (EURL-GMFF) [English]
SACS-BNØØ3-6 - EU Reference Laboratory for GM Food and Feed (EURL-GMEE) (JRC) [English]

Perform your search by keyword, select a GMO unique identifier or click a link in the section below.

ac:ACS-BN003-6	Search or by GMO unique identifier:
View Entry V Download	View in GMO matrix View in GMO amplicons
Entry information	
Entry name	QT-EVE-BN-003; SV 0; linear; genomic DNA; STS; SYN; 139 BP.
Primary accession	ACS-BN003-6
Description	
Description	Quantitative PCR method for detection of oilseed rape event Rf3 (Savini et al., 2007).
Keywords	event_specific
From	Brassica napus (oilseed rape) - event Rf3 (ACS-BN003-6)
References	
1	Savini C., Bogni A., Mazzara M., Van Den Eede G.;"Event-specific Method for the Quantification of Oilseed Rape Line Rf3 Using Real-time PCR - Validation Report and Protocol - Seeds Sampling and DNA Extraction"; Online Publication (2007).
	DOI 10.2788/28179
	Reference Position 1-139

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF MOST COMMONLY USED METHODS

- LMOs are often developed by inserting one or more "genes of interest" which are DNA molecules encoding proteins that confer particular traits of interest, such as insect resistance or herbicide tolerance.

- Either the DNA or the protein can be targeted for the detection or identification of such LMOs.

- Both approaches, i.e. protein- or DNA-based methods, have advantages and disadvantages and the adoption of one over the other, or both, will depend largely on the available expertise, infrastructure to handle samples, laboratory equipment and regulatory requirements.

PROTEIN-BASED METHODS FOR LMO DETECTION

- Detect proteins that are manufactured in the cell according to the information coded by the transgenic (GMO) DNA by antibody recognition of an epitope specific to the transgenic protein.

- Eg. Roundup Ready GM soy has been genetically engineered to be resistant to the glyphosate herbicide Roundup via insertion of a gene that codes for a glyphosate tolerant version of a plant enzyme, CP4 epsps.

- Since the process of antibody production is extremely complex and costly, detection using these methods typically relies on the availability of commercial antibodies.

- The total crude proteins is extracted from a sample by adding water or buffer followed by sample homogenization then the testing is either in the form of a lateral flow strip test, a micro-well format as an enzyme-linked immunosorbent analysis (ELISA) or a gel electrophoresis protein immunoblot (also known as western blot)

LATERAL FLOW STRIP TESTING



ELISA BASED APPROACH



Pre-coated micro-well plate

Add sample or standards,

incubate





Capture Antibody

Target Protein

Y

* _ Sample matrix Protein





Sample and standards are removed, add detector antibody, incubate, wash



Add detection conjugate, incubate, wash



Add detection substrates, incubate, read at OD 450 nm





WESTERN BLOTTING



PROTEIN-BASED METHODS FOR LMO DETECTION

- Can not detect inserted genetic elements that do not produce a protein, such as regulatory sequences and new gene silencing technologies using double stranded RNA (dsRNA)

- Rely on the specific recognition of an antigen in the transgenic protein by an antibody and therefore, any changes in the tertiary structure of the protein renders the method ineffective. Such conformational changes are sometimes induced during sample processing where the samples are subjected to heat and/or chemical treatment.

- The detection capability is also affected by the expression level of the transgenic protein that can vary between different parts (tissues) of the LMO or different stages of its life cycle, and can be influenced by external factors such as climate and soil conditions.

DNA-BASED METHODS FOR LMO DETECTION

- Are based mainly on the use of the polymerase chain reaction (PCR). PCR is a method that employs synthetic DNA oligonucleotides, so called "primers", to replicate or "amplify" targeted regions of an inserted DNA sequence that is present in the LMO. The amplified product can then be detected to determine whether or not DNA originating from an LMO is present in a sample.

- Following the extraction of DNA from a sample, target sequences only found in the LMO are amplified using primers that have been designed to specifically bind the target sequence during the PCR reaction.

- PCR based methods can be used on raw and processed products as long as DNA can be extracted from the sample.

DNA-BASED METHODS FOR LMO DETECTION

- Depending on the combination of primers used, the PCR detection can be GMO screening, transgene-specific, construct-specific and event-specific detection.

- GMO screening is used to determine whether a sample contains GMO through the detection of regulatory elements (promoter and terminator sequences) commonly associated with GMOs. For example, the 35S promoter and NOS terminator are found in more than 90 per cent of all commercial maize and soybean GMOs.
- Transgene-specific identification identifies a specific gene, for example Cry1Ab, Cry9c (insect resistance) or EPSPS (herbicide tolerance).
- Construct-specific methods target the region between two DNA elements found within a
 particular transgene construct, such as the promoter and gene.
- The most specific method to identify a GMO is event-specific detection where the PCR target sequence is a junction between the host DNA and the inserted gene construct

DNA-BASED METHODS FOR GMO DETECTION

Roundup Ready soybean

Primer Recognition



DNA-BASED METHODS FOR GMO DETECTION

Introduced or modified genetic element(s)

Some of these genetic elements may be present as fragments or truncated forms. Please see notes below, where applicable.

C BCH-GENE-SCBD-14972-12 PHOSPHINOTHRICIN N-ACETYLTRANSFERASE GENE | STREPTOMYCES HYGROSCOPICUS (STRHY) Protein coding sequence | Resistance to herbicides (Glufosinate) **CALC** BCH-GENE-SCBD-14985-12 CRY1AB | BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS (BT, BACILLUS, BACTU) Protein coding sequence | Resistance to diseases and pests (Insects, Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths)) CALCELLA BETA-LACTAMASE GENE | ESCHERICHIA COLI (ECOLX) Protein coding sequence | Resistance to antibiotics (Ampicillin)

CAMV 35S PROMOTER | CAULIFLOWER MOSAIC VIRUS (CAMV)

Promoter

CAMV 35S TERMINATOR | CAULIFLOWER MOSAIC VIRUS (CAMV)

Terminator

CARBOXYLASE GENE-SCBD-101404-3 PHOSPHOENOLPYRUVATE CARBOXYLASE GENE PROMOTER | ZEA MAYS (MAIZE, CORN, MAIZE) Promoter

CALCIUM-DEPENDENT PROTEIN KINASE PROMOTER | ZEA MAYS (MAIZE, CORN, MAIZE) Promoter

C BCH-GENE-SCBD-101406-4 PHOSPHOENOLPYRUVATE CARBOXYLASE, INTRON 9 | ZEA MAYS (MAIZE, CORN, MAIZE) Intron

DNA-BASED METHODS FOR GMO DETECTION

PCR amplification





DNA-BASED METHODS FOR GMO DETECTION

- DNA has a greater chemical stability as compared to proteins which allows it to withstand chemical and heat treatments.

- DNA is also present in all cells and therefore any part of the organism can be used for testing.
- PCR methods are more versatile than protein methods and PCR can be used to screen a sample for the presence of several potential LMOs simultaneously with relative ease.
- it is not possible to unequivocally distinguish a sample containing material from different single transformation events from another sample containing one or more stacked LM events.

RISK ASSESSMENT



- The BCH is a very useful tool to assist evaluating and conducting risk assessment and support decision making on living modified organisms (LMO) and Products thereof

It constitutes a repository of scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on, and experience with LMOs.

RISK ASSESSMENT

National Records

O National records are published by governments and include information Parties are obliged to provide in accordance with the Protocol as well as other national information relevant to the implementation of the Protocol.

- National Focal Points (343) ①
- Competent National Authorities (408) 🕕
- Supplementary Protocol Competent Authorities (11) (1)
- Biosafety Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Agreements (1133) ()
- Countries' Decisions or any other Communications (2693) (
- Risk Assessments generated by a regulatory process (2574) (1)
- National Biosafety Websites or Databases (150) (1)
- E Fourth National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (135) ()
- Third National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (160) 🕕
- Second National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (156) (1)
- First National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (0) (1)
- Interim National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (0) ①
- Biosafety Experts (361) 🕕
- Country Profiles for Biosafety Clearing-House (168) 🕕

Contacts (2462) 🗊

Reference Records

1 Reference records include a number of biosafety-related resources and information that can be submitted by any registered user and are validated by the Secretariat prior to their publication.

- Biosafety Virtual Library Resources (1566) (1)
- Biosafety Organizations (375) 🚯
- Laboratories for detection and identification of LMOs (73) (1)
- Living Modified Organisms (928) (1)
- Genetic elements (828) (1)
- Organisms (264) ①
- Risk Assessments generated by an independent or non-regulatory process (32) ()
- Submissions (525) (1)
- Capacity Development Initiatives (422) (1)
- BCH News (558) 🛈

Party Status

- Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- Party to the Supplementary Protocol
- Ratified, not yet Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Not a Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

RISK ASSESSMENT RECORD

https://bch.cbd.int/en/database/RA/BCH-RA-KR-262363-1

RISK ASSESSMENT GENERATED BY A REGULATORY PROCESS (RA)	[] BCH-RA-KR-262363-1	🗋 PDF 🖨 Print 🖪 S	hare
		LAST UPDATED: 14 NOV 20	022
General Information			
Country			
Republic of Korea			
Title of the risk assessment			
DP-202216-6		EN	1
Date of the risk assessment			
21 Oct 2022			
Competent National Authority(ies) responsible for the risk assessment			
- COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY: BCH-CNA-KR-100761-6 ⊡			
COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY:			
Rural Development Administration(RDA)			
300, Nongsaengmyeong-ro, Wansan-gu			
Jeonju-si, Jeollabuk-do 54974 Depublic of Korea			
Phone: +82 63-238-0758			
Fax +82 63 238-1777			
Email: sjkwon67@korea.kr Website: http://www.rda.go.kr 🖸			
Contact details of the main responsible risk assessor			

- PERSON: DR. SOO JIN KWON | BCH-CON-KR-115576-2 Z

PERSON:

Dr. Soo Jin Kwon

THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- It recognizes that GMOs may have biodiversity, human health and socio-economic impacts, and that these impacts should be risk assessed or taken into account when making decisions on GMOs.
- The Protocol empowers governments to decide whether or not to accept imports of LMOs on the basis of risk assessments.
- Art.15 and Annex III of the CPB highlight the general principles, the methodology (steps of risk assessment) and points to consider.
- LMOS and Products thereof, Namely processed materials that are of living modified organism origin, containing detectable novel combinations of replicable genetic material obtained through the use of modern biotechnology,

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR RISK ASSESSMENT

- Scientific soundness (Reporting, verifiability and reproducibility);
- The Concept of a case by case base (LMO, Receiving Environment and the intended use);
- Lack of scientific knowledge or scientific consensus should not necessarily be interpreted as indicating a particular level of risk, an absence of risk, or an acceptable risk;
- "Risks associated with living modified organisms or should be considered in the context of the risks posed by the non-modified recipients or parental organisms in the likely potential receiving environment. (comparator)

Individual Parties should use these general principles to guide the development and implementation of their own national risk assessment process.

ESTABLISHING THE ELEMENTS OF A CASE BY CASE RA

Living modified organism

- Characterization of the recipient organism or parental organisms
- Description of the genetic modification
- Identification of the LMO
- Likely potential receiving environment(s)
 - Physical characteristics
 - Biological characteristics
- Intended use
 - Consumers' habits, patterns, practices?!!

SETTING THE CONTEXT AND SCOPE

- (i) Selecting relevant assessment endpoints or representative species on which to assess potential adverse effects;
- (ii) Establishing baseline information; and
- (iii) Establishing the appropriate comparator(s).

PROTECTION GOALS

" Ecosystems and Habitats: containing high diversity, large numbers of endemic or threatened species, or wilderness; required by migratory species; of social economic, cultural or scientific importance; or, which are representative, unique or associated with key evolutionary or other biological process;

Species and communities: threatened; wild relatives of domesticated or cultivated species; of medicinal, agricultural or other economic value; or social, scientific or cultural importance for research into the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity such as indicator species..."

ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

- Synthesizing what is known about the LMO, its intended use and the likely potential receiving environment to establish the likelihood and consequences of potential adverse effects to biodiversity and human health resulting from the introduction of the LMO.
- Risk assessors need to identify the information needed and understand how it will be used.
- Using and interpreting existing information, as well as identifying information gaps and understanding how to deal with scientific uncertainty are crucial during the risk assessment.

CONDUCTING RISK ASSESSMENT

- 1. Hazard identification;
- 2. Evaluation of the likelihood;
- 3. Evaluation of the consequences;
- 4. Estimation of the overall risk;
- 5. Identification of risk management and monitoring strategies.

- Identification of any novel genotypic and phenotypic characteristics associated with the LMO that may have adverse effects
- Making risk hypothesis or scenario
- E.g. "The possibility that growing Bt corn may kill ladybird beetles due to ingestion of the Bt protein when preying on insects feeding on the GM corn, thereby reducing the abundance of coccinellids in the agroecosystem and increasing the incidence of pests."

When establishing risk scenarios, several considerations may be taken into account. These include, for example:

- Gene flow followed by undesired introgression of the transgene into species of interest;
- Toxicity to non-target organisms;
- Allergenicity;
- Tri-trophic interactions and indirect effects;
- Resistance development; and
- Will it perform as expected ?!!! (null hypothesis)

- Evaluation of the likelihood of adverse effects being realized, taking into account the <u>level</u> and <u>kind of exposure</u> of the likely potential receiving environment to the LMO.
- The likelihood of an adverse effect is dependent upon the probability of one or a series of circumstances actually occurring
- E.g. Introgression of the transgene: Outcrossing of the transgene with a non-modified organism and the likelihood of the establishment of the LMO progeny due to increased fitness resulting from the transgene for example

- Evaluation of consequences: They may be severe, minimal or anywhere in between. It may consider the effects on individuals (e.g. mortality, reduced or enhanced fitness, etc.) or on populations (e.g. increase or decrease in number, change in demographics, etc.) depending on the adverse effect being evaluated.
- Eg Consequences of effects to non-target organisms: When the inserted trait causes the plant to produce potentially toxic compounds, or if flower characteristics are changed, i.e. color, flowering period, pollen production, etc., then effects on pollinators have to be measured. A test of effects on honeybees (Apis mellifera) is always obligatory !!

- Risk characterization
- Integration of likelihood and consequence of each of the individual risks identified through the preceding steps, and takes into account any relevant uncertainty that emerged, this far, during the process.
- The outcome of this step is the assessment of the overall risk of the LMO.

STEP 5.

- Identification of Risk management or monitoring strategies
 - Risk Management: Measures to increase confidence when dealing with uncertainty or to the reduce likelihood or impact of the potential adverse effect to a level that is acceptable when the risk has been identified (Mitigation and preventive measures)
 - Monitoring: Aims at detecting changes (e.g. in the receiving environment(s) or in the LMO) after the release of the LMO. It can designed on the basis of the protection goals identified by national legislation and regulation, if available, and those parameters relevant to the indication of any increasing risk to the assessment endpoints. The strategies include "general surveillance" and "case-specific monitoring".

LMOS AND THEIR PRODUCTS

DECISION MAKING

National frame work, Policy issues including protection goals	Recommendations of Environmental risk assessment	Health issues		
International obligations	Decicion	Socioeconomic considerations		
Other options to solve the same problems	olve the same problems			
Cost benefit analysis	Others factors	Country's capabilities		

HOW TO ACCESS DECISIONS ON THE BCH

GLOBAL FILTERS: Record types 🔇

😣 Keywords 👻 Country 👻

Regions - Date -

National Records

National records are published by governments and include information Parties are obliged to provide in accordance with the Protocol
 as well as other national information relevant to the implementation of the Protocol.

- National Focal Points (343) ①
- Competent National Authorities (408) ()
- Supplementary Protocol Competent Authorities (11) (1)
- Biosafety Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Agreements (1133) (1)
- Countries' Decisions or any other Communications (2693) (1)
- Risk Assessments generated by a regulatory process (2574) ①
- National Biosafety Websites or Databases (150) ①
- Fourth National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (135) ()
- Third National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (160) ()
- Second National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (156) 1
- First National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (0) ()
- Interim National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (0) 1
- Biosafety Experts (361) (1)
- Country Profiles for Biosafety Clearing-House (168) (
- Contacts (2462) (1)

Reference Records

Reference records include a number of biosafety-related resources and information that can be submitted by any registered user and are validated by the Secretariat prior to their publication.

- Biosafety Virtual Library Resources (1566) (1)
- Biosafety Organizations (375) 1
- Laboratories for detection and identification of LMOs (73) 1
- Living Modified Organisms (928) 🕕
- Genetic elements (828) 🕕
- Organisms (264) ①
- Risk Assessments generated by an independent or non-regulatory process (32) (
- Submissions (525) (1)

Party Status

- Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- Party to the Supplementary Protocol
- Ratified, not yet Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

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Not a Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

HOW TO ACCESS DECISIONS ON THE BCH

https://bch.cbd.int/en/database/record?documentID=14751

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