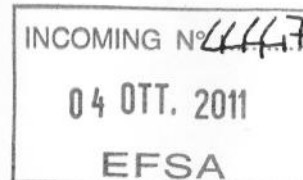




EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Deputy Director General for the Food chain



Brussels,
SANCO/E1/SP/mb Ares (2011) 1144054

Dear Ms Geslain-Lanéelle,

Subject: Request for a scientific support on the safety of pollen produced by MON810 maize

As you are aware, the European Court of Justice ruled on 6 September 2011 that GM pollen produced by MON810 maize and present in honey falls under the scope of Regulation 1829/2003 on GM food and feed.

In the framework of the Standing Committee of the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCFCAH), discussions with Member States took place on 22 September 2011 to analyse the impact of the ruling and ensure its correct implementation. Two priority issues have been identified:

- To clarify the safety of MON810 pollen;
- To fill the regulatory gap in terms of scope of the current authorisation of MON810.

An application for the renewal of the authorisation of MON810 maize for certain food uses and feed uses and for cultivation but not covering pollen as food or in food was submitted by Monsanto in 2007 for which EFSA adopted a favourable opinion in June 2009.

I would be grateful if EFSA could verify whether the data provided within this application are sufficient to positively conclude on the safety of MON810 pollen as food or in food (even if the scope focuses on other specific food uses) and if it is the case, to confirm its safety.

I would appreciate the completion of this request before the next SCFCAH meeting which is scheduled for 24 October.

Yours sincerely,

Ladislav Miko

Ms Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle
Executive Director
European Food Safety Authority
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Copy.:

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