

Ankara, 10 February 2005



*Health and
Consumer Protection
Directorate-General*





EU Institutions

- The European Parliament
- The Council of the European Union
- The European Commission
- Economic and Social Committee
- Committee of the Regions
- Court of Justice
- ...



The People in the Commission

- 25 Commissioners
- Administration
 - General Services
 - Directorates General





The Work of the Commission

- Initiate and Negotiate Draft Legislation
- Ensure Implementation And Application of EU Law (Watch dog)
- Represent EU and its Citizens



Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General



- Annual Budget 2003: € 290, 5 Million
- Staff: ± 700
- Sites in Brussels, Luxembourg and Grange (Ireland)

*Health and
Consumer Protection
Directorate-General*



Mission Statement

- The promotion of a better quality of life by ensuring a high level of protection of consumer's health, safety and economic interests as well as of public health. This is addressed through legislative and non-legislative actions.



Activities

- Public Health
- Consumer Affairs
- Food Safety, Animal Health, Animal Welfare, Plant Health

Food Safety : *from the Farm to the Fork*



- Animal Health
- Animal Feed Safety
- Animal Welfare
- Veterinary Inspections
- Plant Health
- Pesticides
- Safety of Food Products
- Food Labelling
- Enlargement
- Inspection Reports FVO
- International Food Safety Issues

Food Safety : *from the Farm to the Fork*



- Special Topics:
 - EFSA
 - BSE, Foot and Mouth Disease
 - GMOs
 - Precautionary Principle
 - Novel Foods
 - Hormones in Meat
 - Education Campaign on Food Safety
 - Training center
 - Antimicrobial resistance

Consumer Affairs



- Consumer Policy
- Consumer Safety
- Safeguarding Consumers' Interests
- Enforcing Consumer Protection Rules
- Redress: Asserting Consumer Rights
- Working with the Consumer
- International Consumer Issues
- Consumer Information and Education
- Tenders and Grants

Consumer Affairs



- Special Topics:
 - Consumer Information and Help
 - Consumer Education
 - New Consumer Policy Strategy and Financial Framework
 - Euro for Consumers
 - Facts and Figures
 - Enlargement

Public Health



- Health Policy
- Public Health Strategy 2003-2008
- Health Information
- Threats to Health
- Health Determinants
- Enlargement
- International Cooperation

Public Health



- Special Topics:
 - Health Reports
 - Health Indicators
 - EU Health Forum
 - Communicable Diseases
 - Rare Diseases
 - Other Diseases
 - Injury Prevention
 - Blood and Tissues
 - Bio-Terrorism
 - Tobacco
 - Nutrition
 - Health and Environment

Europa on the Internet



- <http://europa.eu.int>

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Website Address



- http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/health_consumer/index_en.htm



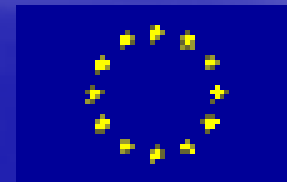
EU Legislation

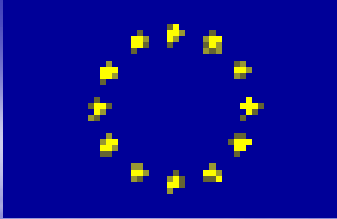
- Access to EU Legislation?
EURLEX on <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/index.html>

EUROPE DIRECT

- General Information and Questions on the EU and its Activities
- mail@europe-direct.cec.eu.int
- Freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11
- http://europa.eu.int/europedirect/en/index_en.html

***New European Regulation
on genetically modified food
and feed and legislative
changes on feed additives***

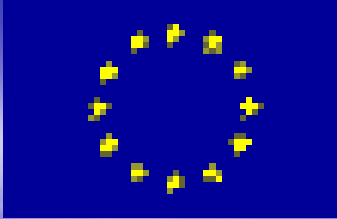




1. GM Food and feed

General EU objectives in the sector

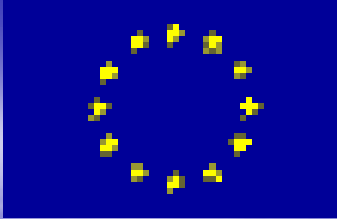
- a modern and effective legislative framework;
- safe food products to EU consumers;
- clear and transparent information;
- to make EU economy profit without harming public health.



2. GM Food and feed

The importance of the EU Food Safety Policy

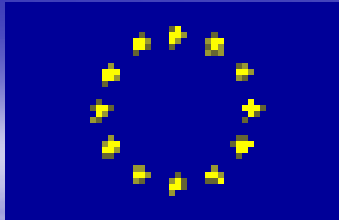
- The food crisis of the 90s (BSE, dioxin)
- The answer of White Paper on Food Safety (2000)
- Regulation 178/2002
- The creation of the European Food Safety Agency



3. GM Food and feed

The first legislative acts

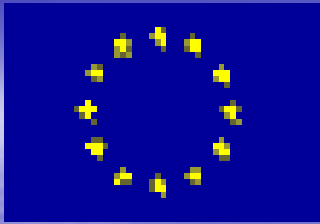
- **Directive 90/219** on the confined use of GMO.
- **Directive 90/220** on the deliberate release into the environment.
- Impressive evolution of the sector and necessity for a more specific act.



4. *GM Food and feed*

Regulation 258/97: main aspects

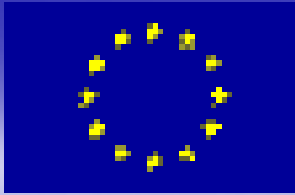
- Disciplines product that
 - contain or consist of GMOs
 - are produced from but do not contain GMOs
- Dual system:
 1. Notification procedure – if substantially equivalent
 2. Authorisation procedure – for non equivalent prod.
- Difficulty (more than 5 years) for the approval



5. *GM Food and feed*

New proposals at the end of the 90s

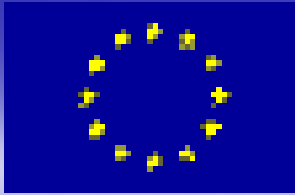
- The impact of the public debate
- MS resistance and the *de facto moratorium*
- New principles within the Food Safety Policy



6. GM Food and feed

Directive 2001/18

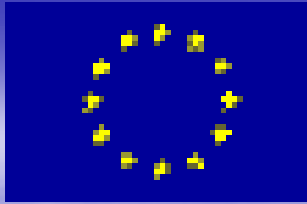
- **Harmonised procedures for the evaluation of the risks to human health and the environment of life GMO**
- **Central role of national authorities and comitology for controversial decisions**
- **Labelling obligation (threshold of 1% for adventitious presence)**



7. GM Food and feed

The normalisation of the sector

- European Strategy on Life sciences and biotechnology (2002).
- Regulation 1829/2003 on food and feed
- Regulation 1830/2003 on labelling and traceability



8. *GM Food and feed*

Regulation 1829/2003

- Objectives
- Wide scope
- New centralized authorization procedure ⇒ “one door, one key”

Risk assessment to the EFSA

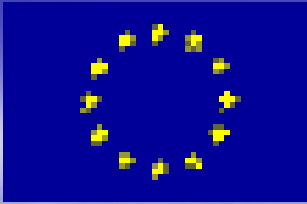
Risk management to the Commission through comitology

- New provisions on labelling ⇒ also products which do not contain any detectable presence of DNA or protein.
BUT 0.9% threshold for authorised GM



European Food Safety Authority

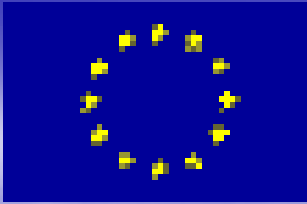
- Independent Scientific Advice on Food Safety Issues to EU Bodies and Member States
- Monitor Safety of the Food Chain
- Early Warning of Emerging Risks
- <http://www.efsa.eu.int>



9. GM Food and feed

Regulation 1830/2003

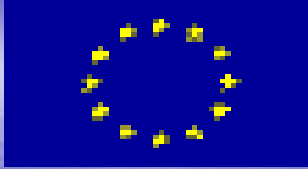
- Compulsory traceability for GM products
- Unique identifiers
- Aim: rapid intervention on the market



10. GM Food and feed

Conclusion

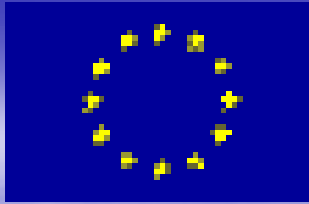
- A safe and transparent legislative framework
- Consumer choice
- Intense debate is ongoing on seeds and coexistence
- Lack of political will
- The difficult position of the Commission
- Need for a non-biased and scientifically based debate



11. Feed additives

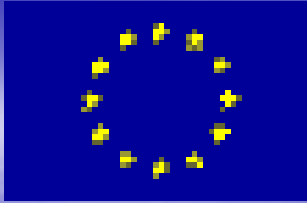
History of legislation

- Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives on feedstuffs
- **Regulation 1831/2003** on additives for use in animal nutrition – apply from 18 October 2004



12. Feed additives

- What are the feed additives?
- What are the basic rules of authorisation?
- What are the conditions of use of additives?



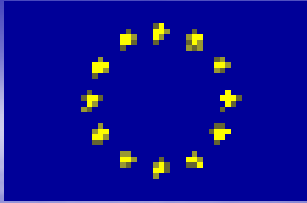
13. *Feed additives*

Authorisation

- Each authorisation is time-limited (ten years), using a Commission Regulation
- EFSA ⇒ risk assessment (within 6 months) of the applications.

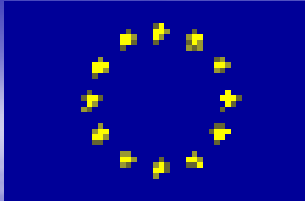
No Member State *rapporteur* anymore.

- Provides for the re-evaluation of all additives already authorised



14. *Feed additives*

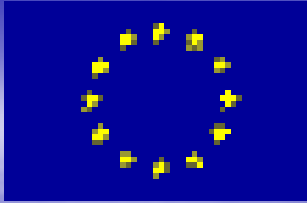
- Positive list principle
- The status of existing product →
Notification system
 - Transition period for existing products currently on the market
 - Authorisations for products not notified will be withdrawn
 - Notifications verified by EFSA



15. Feed additives

Provisions of the Regulation

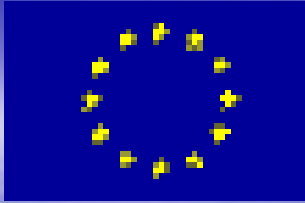
- Phases out the use of antibiotics (other than coccidiostats and histomonostats), by 31 Dec 2005
- some categories of feed additives redefined: technological, sensory, nutritional, zootechnical additives and coccidiostats
- extends the scope to include amino-acids and silage additives
- Additives may be used by adding them to feed but also supplied through water for drinking or other routes



16. Feed additives

Future

- Community Register of Feed Additives
- Introduces a Community Reference Laboratory (CRL) for the evaluation of the methods of analysis of feed additives and the storage of reference samples



17. CONCLUSION

The analogy of GM food and feed and feed additives

- Scientific based risk assessment prior to authorisation
- Central role for the EFSA
- Community Register
- Community Reference Laboratory (CRL)