

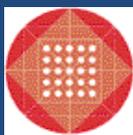
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GMSAFOOD final conference

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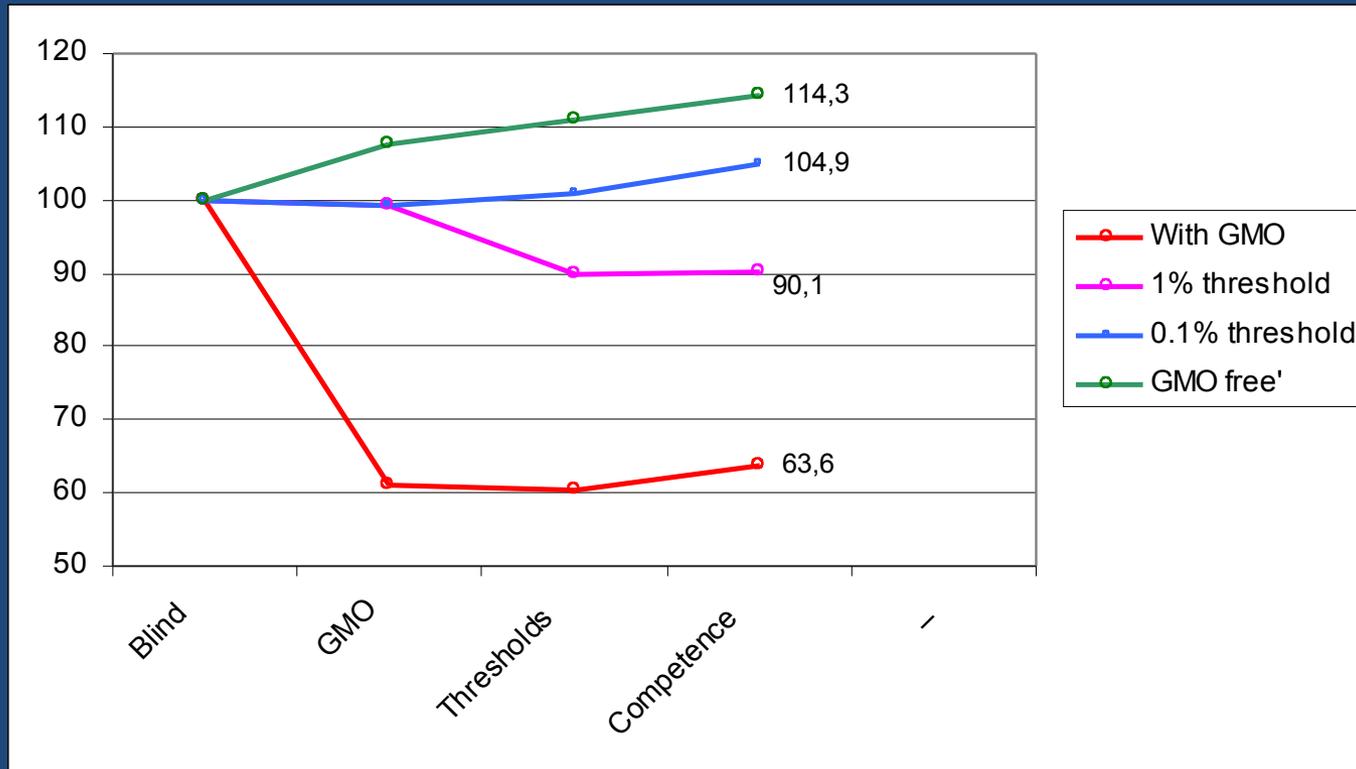
The arrival of GMOs

- GMO evaluation commissions:
 - Confined use: CGG (1989-2008)
 - Deliberate release in the environment: CGB (1986-2008)
- 1996, traceability and enforcement labs
 - first meeting with Competent authorities on GMO traceability,
 - French network officially established 1998,
 - member of ENGL when created in 2002
- 1998: conference of citizens on GMOs
- Research program (1999-2000): “pertinence économique et faisabilité technique d’une filière garantie sans OGM”
(<http://www.inra.fr/genomique/communiqu7.html>)
- In 1999: 74 ha of field trials on GMOs

French opinions

- Eurobarometer:
 - Optimism for biotech ranging from 56% (1991) to 25% (1999) then to 46% (2010)
 - supporting opinions on GM food continuously decreasing from 43% (1996) to 16% (2010)
- Survey in 2011: citizens trusting more NGOs than scientists on technological / innovations' issues

Public opinion and attitudes



Experimental
Economics (2001)

- Consumers' attitudes divided into:
 - +/-30% for GM food
 - +/-30% against GM food
 - +/-30% wait and see (what are the benefits for the consumer?) mostly people characterized by high level of instruction as well as high incomes

Historical description

- 2007: > 22,000 ha of Mon810
- 2007: “Grenelle de l’environnement” (toward a background for a sustainable development)
- 2008: law 2008-595 on GMOs:
 - “Haut conseil des biotechnologies” (HCB) with a wide range of expertise fields (established 2009) with 2 committees:
 - Scientific committee (CS)
 - Economic, ethics and social committee (CEES): 3 qualified experts, stakeholders (pros and anti-GMOs), politician representatives
 - “Comité de surveillance biologique du territoire” (CSBT)
 - Protection of productions of quality signs
 - Compensation scheme of economic losses due to GMO adventitious presence under a no-fault liability system

February 2008: ban of Mon810 cultivation (safety clause)

Historical description

- 2008: withdrawal of a decree's project on cultivations' coexistence
- 2009: opinions on "GMO-free" at 0.1% of
 - _ Conseil national de la consommation (May)
 - _ Comité économique, éthique et social of HCB (November)
- Producers (chicken, pork, beef) and retailers (Carrefour...) with "GMO-free" labeling ("99,1% certified")
- 2008-2010: 2008-757 law, 2009-468 decree, ordinance 2010-1232 and law 2010-788 on the Environmental responsibility (transpositions of 2004/35/EC and 2007/2/EC European directives)
- 2010: AFSSA and AFSSET merged in ANSES agency dedicated to risk assessment on human health
- 2010: still 2 field trials in place:
 - _ GM grapes (INRA)
 - _ GM poplars (INRA)

Historical description

- 2011: 2011-841 decree on the declaration of GMO cultivation (register)
- 2011: 2nd destruction of GM grapes field trial
- 2012: 2012-128 decree on the GMO-free labeling:
 - Plants: $< 0.1\%$
 - Animals fed with GM plants $< 0.9\%$ (temporary)
 - Animals fed with GM plants $< 0.1\%$
 - Honey for beehives located at more than 3 km of GMO cultivations

Opinion of the CS of HCB on coexistence (with a divergent opinion)

- Issued December 2011:
 - 0.9 and 0.1% levels considered
 - Maize, soybean, sugar beet, potato
 - general recommendations on technical measures such as machines cleaning or different sowing dates or isolation distances for e.g. potato or soybean
 - Proposal of using production units (such as kernels or tubers) for GMO content measurement instead of HGE unit for facing the issue of stacked genes with allogamous plants
 - Maize: no precise coexistence rules recommended but the use of decision tables / MAPOD model's outputs
 - No specific consideration about beekeepers
 - Recommending negotiations between operators
 - Recommending dedicated production areas for productions at 0.1%

Recommendation of the CEES of HCB on coexistence

(not consensual for all parts)

- Issued December 2011
 - Outlining the need of
 - territory organization in general and dedicated production areas for the GMO-free (0.1%) productions
 - in depth negotiations between operators, for territory organization, under an administrative umbrella to be established
 - Questioning the share of incurred costs of supply chains' (particularly after the farms' gates) coexistence
 - Beekeepers shall also be informed on the location of GMO cultivations
 - Open-pollinated maize ("peasants' seeds" / participative breeding) to be protected as commercial seeds' productions

Historical description

- 2011: 2007 ban of Mon810 cultivation declared illegal
 - by the ECJ (September)
 - by the “Conseil d’Etat” (November)
- January 2012:
 - resignation from CEES of HCB of FNSEA, ANIA, Jeunes agriculteurs, GNIS and CFDT
 - CEES cannot release recommendation on GMOs dossiers but still working on transversal issues
 - Prime minister : mission to the Chair of HCB for discussing with CS members and stakeholders
- January 2012: notification to the EC of a project of departmental order on coexistence (50 m of isolation distance or 9 m of buffer zone) for non stacked GMO

Historical description

- February 2012: new French notification to the EC for a ban of Mon810 cultivation, but in the EU
- Several farmers declaring themselves ready for sowing Mon810 while other ones invading Monsanto's plants and former minister of Environment asking them not to sow...

Elections in a few weeks ...

Post-market monitoring

- Health: no dedicated monitoring (specific or general surveillance)
 - InVS as a general human health monitoring institute
 - HCB: study on-going on existing networks which may be mobilized
- Environment:
 - Some previous studies by CA but without experimental plans
 - CS of HCB: opinions on dossiers' approvals and current monitoring
 - CSBT plans in preparation to be submitted to the HCB

Notifiers' and consent holders' PMM vs. CS of HCB

(dossiers approvals and PMM reports)

- PMM conditions imprecise (e.g.: contracts' contents, obligations, number of questionnaires, training and independency of observers, location of observations, cultivation antecedents, representativeness, farmers questionnaires and accuracy of data, etc.)
- Statistical methods and/or deductions inappropriate
- No follow-up of e.g. situations where issues started to be observed
- Need for centralized / interconnected GIS databases for all GMOs (no follow-up of a previous recommendation of an EuropaBio WG)
- Issues:
 - _ Duration of general surveillance vs. consent duration
 - _ Clarifying relationships between GMOs and pesticides related surveillances
 - _ Questions about the drastic changes between 2006 and 2010 versions of EFSA guidelines on PMEM
 - _ Probable move on
 - in depth specific surveillance
 - new questions on general surveillance

Conclusion on GMOs in France in 2012

- GMOs:
 - 2012: GM poplars (INRA)
 - Foreseeable: no commercial GMOs in 2012
- PMM :
 - Plans with 2 trends: enforcement and/or citizens' mobilization, particularly for general surveillance
 - Who will pay for PMM?

Future: ????