



THE GLOBAL LEADER IN GMO IDENTIFICATION

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Genetic ID Offers Official EU Test Method for Bt10 Maize

Augsburg, Germany, April 26, 2005—Genetic ID is happy to announce that we are now offering the official EU test method for Bt10 maize. This event-specific method replaces the earlier construct-specific method that Genetic ID previously offered.

The new method was provided by Syngenta to the European Union, and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission completed their internal validation of the method on April 23, 2005. At that time, they placed the method in the public domain by publishing it on their website, www.jrc.cec.eu.int, and sending it to Regulatory Labs of the EU Member States, as well as to accredited private laboratories, including Genetic ID.

We have now established this method in the Genetic ID laboratories in Europe, Japan, and North America, and are offering it under the scope of our DIN ISO17025 accreditation for GMO testing.

This test, carried out at Genetic ID laboratories, can be used as the legal basis for demonstrating to the Authorities of EU Member States that a particular consignment of product does not contain Bt10 maize or derivatives thereof.

According to the European Commission's decision of 18 April 2005 (see key article of the decision, quoted below), PCR test certificates, indicating that Bt10 was not detected by this method, are to be accepted by the Authorities of EU Member States.

Such certificates can be used to release shipments currently held in harbor, and can also be used to verify that materials existing in store or on the premises of compounders and merchants do not contain Bt10. In the future, products imported into the EU must be accompanied by such a test certificate, at least for the next 6 months.

The following is the key article of the COMMISSION DECISION of 18 April 2005:

Article 2.1, COMMISSION DECISION of 18 April 2005

Member States shall allow the first placing on the market of the products referred to in Article 1 only where an original analytical report based on a suitable and validated method for the event-specific detection of genetically modified maize Bt10 and issued by an accredited laboratory accompanying the consignment demonstrates that the product does not contain Bt10 maize or feed produced from Bt10 maize.

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