

Seamons, Colleen

From: j c [youcangetmeonline@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, 18 April 2011 7:45 AM
To: submissions
Cc: agefc@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Application A1042

Categories: Orange Category

SUBMISSION to : Food Standards Australia New Zealand, PO Box 10559, Wellington
Fax 04 473 9855 Email:

Auckland GE Free Coalition
c/o Mr J Carapiet
PO Box 101-49
Dominion Rd
Mt Eden Auckland 1446

+64 210507681

17 April 2011

Re: Application A1042 - Food derived from herbicide-tolerant Corn line DAS-40278-9

Dear FSANZ,

This product should not be given approval.

AGEFC is a network of community groups and individuals concerned with the failure to properly regulate and control GE foods in a way that protects public safety, the environment, and the choice to avoid GM-foods and limit personal exposure to the risks.

FSANZ must the assessment of Application A1042, as the presumed long term safety to consumers is not adequately supported by credible data and is unscientific. As it cannot be legitimately approved as safe, the intended approval appears motivated by other agendas of trade and industry-support that contradict the duties of FSANZ to protect public health, and "the health and safety of people in Australia and New Zealand through the maintenance of a safe food supply".

FSANZ must learn from what has been discovered since the FSANZ started approving GE foods without a globally-agreed robust process. Independent safety studies published after regulatory approvals of foods, in the last ten years show many problems with the introduction of GE into the food chain.

The application assessment does not genuinely address safety concerns of consumer. We are concerned about the huge range of metabolic, immune and digestive effects that might occur once eaten. No long term testing has been done.

There is no data on its safety status; no maximum or minimum amounts of contaminants, residues, or other changes that may be present in plant food or that may be able to cause health problems. Given the lack of credible safety testing or data to permit assessment, this application should put on hold until comprehensive safety studies are conducted that meet the International Codex parameters.

Ensuring dietary health is vital for the families of all people in Australia and New Zealand. FSANZ cannot ignore the medical advice that groups like the poor, elderly, children and health-challenged are more vulnerable to the risks of accidental effects from GM foods.

The lack of diagnostic tools for transgenic detection by health practitioners is a severe omission in preserving and ensuring public safety. Allergies to food products have risen over the last few years.

FSANZ must be aware of the potential from harm as a result of interaction of chemicals and genetic elements. Yet there is no data about how 2, 4_D corn will interact, recombine, or transform with other GE foods.

In the interest of public health we ask that the Application A 1042 is not approved.

Yours sincerely,
J Carapiet, spokesman, AGEFC