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Attention - FSANZ



Submission on Application A1274 Food derived from disease-resistant banana line QCAV-4

This submission asks that FSANZ decline the application because of insufficient data.

The information provided does not give the public confidence on the effective, transparent, and accountable regulatory framework assessment.

Until there is scientific data on the effects of the transgenes and inflammatory response in small bowel flora, villi and epithelium, in long-term studies, the GM banana must be declined.

The documents provided by FSANZ do not have the information needed to assess the risks to health from unique characteristics of the GM banana.

The FSANZ report makes it clear that assumptions of safety have been made without the necessary scientific data.

There is no analysis of seven new proteins identified in the GM banana.

There is no research on the implications of these proteins for food safety when the banana is eaten.

There is no study of different impacts for infants, children, the sick or elderly from eating GM bananas.

There is no analysis of the impact on bacterial resistance to kanamycin-type antibiotics from potential transfer in the gut of the gene expressing antibiotic resistance

There is no evidence on the impact of different medicines that change the survival rate of GM constructs into the gut and bloodstream of consumers.

FSANZ are asked to refuse approval until significant scientific and safety issues are addressed with data, not based on assumed safety.

No proper assessment or approval of application A1274 can be made by FSANZ until robust scientific safety testing is conducted.

FSANZ is asked to require safety data from the applicant to address these concerns.