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Date: 3rd November 2023

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I request the 'clock be stopped' on application A1274 until robust scientific safety testing is conducted.

Or A1274 GM Banana must be declined.

This application does not provide adequate information relating to food safety for FSANZ experts or other submitters to consider.

- 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.
- The GM bananas will contain a gene for expressing antibiotic resistance. If transferred to gut bacteria this could add to problems of bacterial resistance to kanamycin-type antibiotics.
- There is a lack of evidence on the impact of different medicines that change the survival rate of GM constructs into the gut and bloodstream of consumers.
- There is no study of different impact for infants, children, the sick or elderly from eating the GM bananas.
- Until there is scientific data on the any effects of the transgenes and inflammatory response in small bowel flora, villi and epithelium, in long-term studies, the GM banana must be declined.
- FSANZ must require laboratory diagnostic tests for detection of the transgenes be made available for health professionals before any approval of the product.
- Scientific evidence on long term safety of consumption of the GM banana must be required.
- The information provided does not give the public confidence on the effective, transparent, and accountable regulatory framework assessment.