



SOFIA REGIONAL INSPECTORATE  
FOR PROTECTION AND CONTROL  
OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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# CONTROL SYSTEM OF GM FOOD IN BULGARIA

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# INSPECTION SYSTEM IN BULGARIA

- Regional Inspectorates for Protection and Control on Public Health /RIPCPH/ are subsidiary structures to the Bulgarian Ministry of Health.
- RIPCPH are carrying out health risk assessment, hygienic and analytical investigations /including control of GM food/ to fulfill their control responsibilities.

# INSPECTION SYSTEM IN BULGARIA- ACTIVITIES

- In Bulgaria there are 28 Regional Inspectorates for Protection and Control on Public Health /RIPCPh/
- The health inspectors sampling foods in supermarkets, shops, from food producers and the like.
- In cooperation with Customs agency the RIPCPh also control import of foods into the country.



# GM FOOD CONTROL

The control of GM food is carried out according to an annual plan coordinate with the Ministry of Health.

All the food samples are sent to the GM food laboratory, belongs to the Regional Inspectorate for Protection and Control on Public Health- Sofia which is responsible for the control of food consisting or produced from genetically modified plants.

# LEGISLATION CONCERNING INSPECTIONS

- Legal basis in Bulgaria: Food law, the last amendment 2006
- Check if labeling is in line with Food law and threshold 0.9%
- Regulations EC 1829/2003 and 1830/2003
- Check if investigated food contains non-authorized GMOs
- Cases: LL601 rice, Bt 63 rice
- Regulation EC 882/2004
- General requirements for food control



## **ACTIVITIES/ TASK OF THE RIPCPH- SOFIA RELATED TO GM FOOD**

Since 2004 the laboratory “Official control of GM food” is established and equipped to analyze genetically modified foods. It belongs to department “Laboratory investigations”, RIPCPH-Sofia.

The lab service to the other RIPCPH across the country.



## **ACTIVITIES OF THE “OFFICIAL CONTROL OF GM FOOD” LABORATORY**

The “Control of GM food” laboratory performs control especially on soybean and soy products, maize and corn products, rice /presence of LL601, Bt 63/ for detection and quantification of GM ingredients.

Until now we have analyzed diverse food matrices, like as: grains, flour, snacks, sausages, soybean isolates and granulates, waffles and so on.



## **ACTIVITES OF THE “OFFICIAL CONTROL OF GM FOOD” LABORATORY**

- In **2004** were analyzed **125** samples
- In **2005**- **158** samples
- In **2006**- **140** samples
- In **2007**- **500** samples
- In **2008** are analyzed **200** samples.



## ACTIVITIES OF THE “OFFICIAL CONTROL OF GM FOOD” LABORATORY

### •Results:

Approximately 7% of food samples per year contain GMOs above 0.9% threshold. The most of them are:

- Soybean granulates and isolates- from import;
- Soy flour- from import;
- Sausages- Bulgarian production;
- Waffles- Bulgarian production;
- Maize snacks- from import.

Applied Biosystems 7300 Real - Time PCR System



Gene Expression / SNP analysis

## ACTIVITIES OF THE “OFFICIAL CONTROL OF GM FOOD” LABORATORY

### •Results:

Since 2004 nothing has been found concerning presence of unauthorized events, with exception of one sample. It was soybean granulate- import from Brazil.

# MEASURES?

- If the available infringement concerning to labeling , in Bulgarian food law, Annex 38 are indicated the penalties.
- Emergency measures: In case of signal for risk of import of non authorized GMOs.  
Then removal from the market. RIPCPCPH indicate the Ministry of Health.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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