




Management of GMO in Republic of Srpska and Bosnia & Herzegovina


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Administrative Organization of B&H

- Bosnia and Herzegovina is a compound state consists of the Republika Srpska (49% of territory) and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (51% of territory). Brcko, which was a subject of disputes and international arbitrage, was proclaimed a district.
- Thus, Bosnia and Herzegovina has two entities and Brcko District.

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- The Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina are entities having their own constitutions, which have to be in conformity with the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
 - Republika Srpska is the entity, which is administratively split into regions (Banja Luka, Doboј, Bijeljina, Pale and Trebinje).
 - National Assembly of the Republika Srpska and the Council of People in the Republika Srpska exercise legislative powers in the RS. Executive powers are exercised by the President and two Vice Presidents of the Republika Srpska, as well as by the Government of the Republika Srpska.

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- Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as the entity, consists of ten cantons.
 - The Parliament of the Federation of BiH has legislative powers and is comprised of the House of Representatives and the House of People. Executive powers are performed by the President of the Federation and two Vice Presidents, as well as the Government of the Federation of BiH.
 - The territory of Brcko was under arbitrage and was attached neither to the Federation of BiH or to the Republika Srpska.

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- Parliamentary Assembly is the highest legislative authority in B&H. It comprises the House of Representatives and the House of People.
 - Council of Ministers on the level of B&H consist of the 9 Ministry's.
 - Total: 167 Ministry's in B&H (12 Ministry's of Agriculture).





Bosnia and Herzegovina Biotechnology Regulatory Framework

- Biosafety - Development of the institutional framework;
- Food Safety;
- Intellectual Property (Patents and Plant Variety Protection);
- Genetic Resources - Development of the strategy for biodiversity protection in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Current Situation of Utilization of GMO in B&H


- Presently, all the issues related to the use of GMO for food and feed on state level of B&H are based on the Law on Food;
- However, several regulations for conducting of this Law have not been adopted;
- Article 31: Releasing GMO Food on Market:

The Food Safety Agency gives the permission for releasing on the market food and feed which contain GMO or consist of GMO in accordance to the previous agreement with the authorized organs. The conditions and procedure for permission issue under paragraph 1 of this article regulates the Ministry Council, upon the proposal by the Food Safety Agency, with previous agreement of the authorized organs.




Current Situation of Utilization of GMO in B&H

- Food Safety Agency is an independent organization, established after the 8 March 2006 Council of Ministers decision proposed by Ministry of Foreign Trade and Commerce Relations, based on the Law on Food.



Current Situation of Utilization of GMO in Republic of Srpska

- Parliament of Republic Srpska adopted the Law on GMO on 04. November 2008.
- According to Article 3 all use of GMO's it is prohibited.
- According to Paragraph II it is possible to obtain permission for contain use of GMO's.
- According to Article 15 RS Government will establish Biosafety Advisory Council, three months after adoption of this Law (expected in February 2009.)



Current Situation of Utilization of GMO in Republic of Srpska

- According to the Article 24 Minister of Agriculture will provide seven sublegal Regulations, six months after adoption of this Law (expected in May 2009.)

GMO Analysis in Republic of Srpska

- Agricultural Institute of Republic Srpska, Banja Luka is authorized by the Ministry of Health to perform the analysis of GMO presence in plant material (currently only qualitative analysis).



Preview of results of testing on GMO presence in Republic of Srpska in 2005 (imported only)

No:	Sample type	Number of samples	Result			
			Positive	%	Negative	%
1.	Soybean corse meal	20	9 (RR)	45	11	55
2.	Feed	68	36 (RR)	52.94	32	47.06
3.	Wheat grain	22	0	0	22	100
4.	Maize grain	12	0	0	12	100
5.	Feed meal	26	0	0	26	100
6.	Oil rape	2	0	0	2	100
7.	Soybean meal	1	0	0	1	100
8.	Fresh paper	2	0	0	2	100
9.	Fresh tomato	1	0	0	1	100
10.	Oat	2	0	0	2	100
11.	Soja sauce	1	0	0	1	100
12.	Sunflower pelets	1	0	0	1	100
13.	Maize meal	1	0	0	1	100
14.	Soybean grain	4	0	0	4	100
15.	Soybean protein	1	0	0	1	100
16.	Beer malt	3	0	0	3	100
17.	Rice	1	0	0	1	100
18.	Frozen tomato	6	0	0	1	100
TOTAL:		174	45	25.86	129	74.14



Who Needs the Results of GMO Analysis?

- Exporters of agricultural goods from Bosnia and Herzegovina into regional countries, EU or other countries of the World.
- Importers of agricultural goods (especially importers of soybean coarse meal from South America).
- Importers of seeds in B&H.

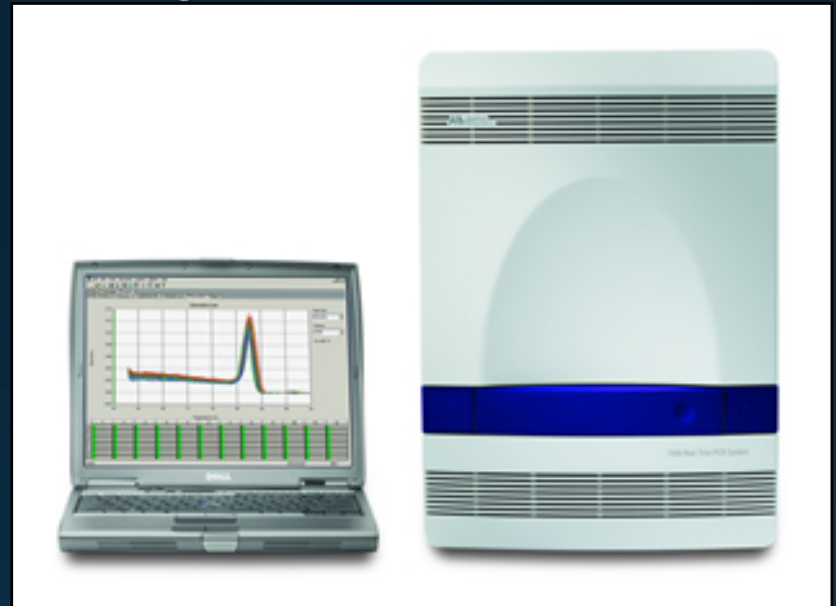
Developing projects

- Agricultural Institute of RS acquired new equipment for semiautomatic extraction of DNA (6100 Nucleic Acid PrepStation). Installation will be finalized next week.



Developing projects

- Acquisition of equipment for Real-Time PCR is in progress (7500 Fast Real-Time PCR System).
- International certification and accreditation for GMO analysis according to ISO standards.





Which support we need from JRC?

- Training on GMO testing.
- Assistance for ISO 9001 certification.
- Assistance for ISO 17025 accreditation.
- Applying for membership in the European Network of GMO Laboratories.
- Other related issues.



***THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!***

**Poljoprivredni institut Republike Srpske
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