

Testbiotech comment on EFSA Opinion on application (EFSA-GMO-DE-2010-82) for the placing on the market of insectresistant genetically modified maize MIR162 for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 from Syngenta

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Molecular data

The data as provided by Syngenta make it evident that there is a year-to-year and site-to-site variation in the content of the additional protein expression, and therefore shows that environmental conditions will impact the level of gene expression. Nevertheless, the expression of the gene construct and the functional stability of the gene construct were, for example, not tested under extreme climate conditions such as drought and flooding which are likely to occur under present ongoing climate change. Investigations under controlled environmental conditions should have been performed to determine the actual range of variation and to identify relevant impact factors.

Further, the effects of the additional genes on the activity of the plants' genome and the plants' metabolism should have been investigated using methods such as metabolic profiling.

The methods for measuring the content of VtPA toxin and the phosphomannose isomerase (PMI) enzyme in parts of the plants were not evaluated by independent laboratories. Hence, the data by Syngenta should not be considered as reliable.

Comparative assessment (for compositional analysis and agronomic traits and GM phenotype)

The data as provided by Syngenta show several significant differences between MIR162 and its conventional counterparts in composition and agronomic performance. These differences have been declared irrelevant by referring to historical data from the ILSI Database, which is known to be unreliable.

Instead of using these historical data, the actual differences should have investigated further under

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Publication year: 2012

File attachments: Attachment



[TBT Comment_MIR_162_Import.pdf](#)

[1]

Size
181.03 KB

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