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Testbiotech comment on EFSA's assessment of genetically engineered maize MON 87427 x MON 89034 x MIR162 x NK603 and subcombinations (August 2019)

The EFSA GMO panel assessed the four-stacked maize MON 87427 x MON 89034 x MIR162 x NK603, which is derived from crossing genetically engineered maize events. This maize was assessed previously (EFSA, 2019a). The maize contains genes conferring triple resistance to glyphosate and produces three insecticides:

- MON87427 expressing CP4 EPSPS protein for tolerance to glyphosate-containing herbicides;
- MON 89034 expressing the insecticidal proteins Cry1A.105 (artificially synthesized) and Cry2Ab2,
- MIR162 expressing the insecticidal protein Vip3Aa20 and phosphomannose isomerase (PMI) which is a selectable marker;
- NK603 expressing two variants of CP4 EPSPS protein for tolerance to glyphosatecontaining herbicides.

Consequently, the stacked GE maize has triple resistance to glyphosate, making it tolerant to high dosages and repeated sprayings as applied in fields with herbicide-resistant weeds. Further, it produces three toxins against the larvae of Lepidoptera (butterflies) that feed on the plants ('pest insects'). Implementing Regulation 503/2003 has been applied in this case.

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Testbiotech Comment MON87427xMON 89034xMIR162xNK603.pdf [1]

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