

GMO labeling in the EU

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Who is VLOG?

- Represents food industry as well as sectors upstream and downstream to food production
- We award licences for the standardized seal “Ohne GenTechnik” (Without Genetic Engineering/Non-GMO)



259 members and licensees that stand for
total annual sales of 130 billion Euros



Current EU GMO labeling regulation

EU GMO labeling regulation

- Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on genetically modified food and feed
- In force since 18th of April 2004
- Most advanced world wide
- Big loophole. No labeling of products from animals fed with GM-plants
- Amendment currently unrealistic

EU GMO labeling regulation

- 35 million tons of soymeal used as animal feed in Europe
- 30 million tons of which are GMO
- > 90% of GMOs imported into the EU are used as feed
- Consumers have no way to exercise their demand for Non-GMO food when buying conventional animal products

Non-GMO labeling in the EU

- Non-GMO labeling, voluntary alternative to GMO labeling
- No EU wide regulation. National regulations in Austria, France, South Tyrol and Germany. More in progress
- Empower consumers to make an educated choice
- Influence market competitors
- Win parts of food industry over to support GMO labeling

Non-GMO labeling in the EU

- Success story in Austria and Germany
- Driver for Non-GMO feeding policies
- Austria: 100% of dairy cows, 100% of laying hen, 100% of broiler fed Non-GM
- Germany: 20% of dairy cows, largest share of laying hen and broiler fed Non-GMO

Awkward «Alliance»

- Best labeling still is mandatory GMO labeling
- Proponents of genetic engineered food and environmental NGOs, both demand exented GMO food-labeling
- The devil is in the details
- NGOs: label products from animals fed with GM-plants
- GM-Proponents: Label anything that has ever been in contact with GMOs during production process

Hidden Agenda

- GM-Proponents wish to see any product labeled no matter whether
 - Milk from cow fed on diet of GM-maize and GM-soymeal
 - Milk from cow treated with drugs 5 years ago produced by GM-mikroorganismen
- No market differentiation, no incentive to produce without GM-feed, no consumer choice, no consumer influence on GM-cultivation
- Be aware of «100%-labeling-trap»

Keep the Balance

Labeling criteria is balancing act between high consumer expectations regarding the degree of GMO absence and practicability for farmers and food producers



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Thank you for your attention!



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