

D,07.08 Toxicology

7.8.4 Testing of the whole GM food/feed

The GMO Panel of the Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety has evaluated the Modena as a food and feed ingredient. We are concerned about the use of freeze dried raw potato when testing toxicity of Modena as a food and feed component. Raw potato is indigestible for rats and humans and the study shows increased caecum weight in all test groups given raw potato, but not in group 1 given AIN-93G standard rat diet. Freeze drying of potato induces no gelatinisation of starch (Stefan Sahlstrøm, NOFIMA personal communication). Freeze dried baked potato as a food and feed ingredient induces no changes in the caecum weight of rats (Thompson, MD et al. 2009).

Another concern is the use of inbred Wistar rats for studies of food and feed ingredient. It is more proper to test the food and feed ingredient in either outbred animals or in production animals where raw potato is a natural ingredient.

We would recommend that the faeces is analysed for its content of indigested starch. This should be included in all studies if raw GMO potatoes are tested.

References: Thompson, MD et al. (2009) *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis* 22: 571–576.

D, 07.04 Agronomic traits

Referring to the study on agronomic performance (Heeres 2009), the applicant concludes that the flowering characteristics are identical for AV43-6-G7 and Karnico and that no differences in reproduction and dissemination are expected. In appendix 5, however, no data are presented on reproductive characters. We would therefore ask the applicant to provide data on flowering characteristics from field trials with AV43-6-G7 and the non-GM comparator Karnico.