

# Information on Genetically Modified Animal Feed Labelling

Agri-food Inspection Branch



**The Genetically Modified Animal Feed Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 2004  
Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003  
Regulation (EU) No. 619/2011**



Department of  
**Agriculture and  
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AN ROINN  
**Talmhaíochta agus  
Forbartha Tuaithe**

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MÁNNYSTRIE O  
**Fairms an  
Kintra Fordèrin**

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## **The Genetically Modified Animal Feed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004**

These regulations provide the enforcement powers for the Genetically Modified (GM) Food and Feed **Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003** which lays down the rules covering all GM food and animal feed.

The EU Regulation can be accessed from the following address:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/RECH\\_naturel.do](http://ec.europa.eu/RECH_naturel.do)

The EU regulations cover GM animal feed labelling and provide a harmonised procedure for the scientific assessment and authorisation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and GM food and feed.

The EU regulations require labelling of all GM feed products derived from GMOs.

This applies to feed as referred to in Article 15(1):

- a) GMOs for feed use;
- b) Feed containing or consisting of GMOs;
- c) Feed produced from GMOs.

Feed referred to above must not have adverse effects on human health, animal health or the environment, mislead the user or differ from the feed which it is intended to replace. Feed shall not be placed on the market unless the required particulars are shown in a clearly visible and indelible manner on an accompanying document or an attached label.

**It is an offence for feed containing or produced from GMOs not to be labelled as such.**

This will not apply to feed containing or produced from GMOs in a proportion no higher than 0.9% of the feed, provided that the presence is not planned or is technically unavoidable. In order to establish that the presence of this material is adventitious or technically unavoidable, operators must be in a position to demonstrate that they have taken appropriate steps to avoid the presence of the genetically modified feed.

**Each feed shall be subject to the following rules:**

**1. GMOs for feed use or feed containing GMOs**

The words 'genetically modified (name of the organism)' shall appear for example, **Soya 'genetically modified Soya.'**

Alternatively, these words may appear in a footnote to the list of feed. It shall be printed in a font of at least the same size as the list of feed.

**2. Feed produced from GMOs**

The words 'produced from genetically modified (name of the organism)' shall appear for example, **Maize Gluten 'produced from genetically modified Maize.'**

Alternatively, these words may appear in a footnote to the list of feed. It shall be printed in a font of at least the same size as the list of feed.

**3. Characteristics**

The labelling should give information about any characteristic or property which renders a food or feed different from its conventional counterpart\* with respect to composition, nutritional value or nutritional effects, intended use of the food or feed and health implications for certain sections of the population, as well as any characteristic or property which gives rise to ethical or religious concerns.

\*Conventional counterpart means a similar (food or) feed produced without the help of genetic modification and for which there is a well-established history of safe use.

## Unauthorised GM material

**Regulation (EU) 619/2011** provides a tolerance for unauthorised GM material. This includes GM material not yet authorised, but has had a favourable assessment from an EU scientific committee.

Key points of Regulation (EU) 619/2011 (Unauthorised genetically modified material):

- Sets a technical zero tolerance at a level of 0.1%;
- Harmonises sampling and testing controls in all EU countries;
- Is limited to GM feed material.

DARD has responsibility for enforcement of these regulations. Any person who contravenes the regulations shall be guilty of an offence and may be liable for prosecution.

*This leaflet must not be used as a substitute for the legislation on which it is based.*

Further Information and guidance can be obtained from:

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