

# **Genetically Engineered Crops and Foods: Worldwide Regulation and Prohibition**

**An Ongoing Project of:**



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# AFRICA

\* Refer to *Regional Regulations & Prohibition Chart* for more information

Country	Protocol on Biosafety	Labeling Requirements	Ban or Moratorium on Commercialization	Ban on Imports
Algeria	Ratified		December 2000: Ministerial Order prohibits the import, distribution, commercialization and utilization of GM plant material. <a href="http://www.gene.ch/genet/2001/Feb/msg00058.html">http://www.gene.ch/genet/2001/Feb/msg00058.html</a>	December 2000: Ministerial Order prohibits the import, distribution, commercialization and utilization of GM plant material. <a href="http://www.gene.ch/genet/2001/Feb/msg00058.html">http://www.gene.ch/genet/2001/Feb/msg00058.html</a>
Angola				December 2004: Ban on the import and use of GM food, except milled food-aid grains.
Benin	Ratified		April 2002: 5-year moratorium on import, commercialization, and use of GMOs and their products. <a href="http://www.gouv.bj/en/index.php">http://www.gouv.bj/en/index.php</a>	April 2002: 5-year moratorium on import, commercialization, and use of GMOs and their products. <a href="http://www.gouv.bj/en/index.php">http://www.gouv.bj/en/index.php</a>
Botswana	Ratified			
Burkina Faso	Ratified			
Burundi				
Cameroon	Ratified			
Cape Verde				
Central African Republic	Signed			
Chad	Signed			
Comoros				
Congo (Democratic Republic)	Ratified			
Congo (Republic)	Signed			
Djibouti	Ratified			
Egypt	Ratified			
Equatorial Guinea				
Eritrea	Ratified			
Ethiopia	Ratified			
Gabon				
Gambia	Ratified			
Ghana	Ratified			
Guinea	Signed			
Guinea-Bissau				
Ivory Coast				

Kenya	Ratified			
Lesotho	Ratified			
Liberia	Ratified			
Libya	Ratified			
Madagascar	Ratified			
Malawi	Signed			
Mali	Ratified			
Mauritania				
Mauritius	Ratified	March 2004: GMO Bill requires labeling		
Morocco	Signed			
Mozambique	Ratified			
Namibia	Ratified			
Niger	Ratified			
Nigeria	Ratified			
Rwanda	Ratified			
Sao Tome and Principe				
Senegal	Ratified			
Seychelles	Ratified			
Sierra Leone				
Somalia				
South Africa	Ratified	January 2004: Foods, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act. <a href="http://www.gov.za/gazette/regulation/2004/25908a.pdf">http://www.gov.za/gazette/regulation/2004/25908a.pdf</a>		
Sudan	Ratified			May 2003: The gov't issued a memorandum that food aid be GM-free; under pressure from USAID, the memorandum waiver has been extended until June 2005.
Swaziland				
Tanzania	Ratified			
Togo	Ratified			
Tunisia	Ratified			
Uganda	Ratified		March 2004: GM foods can be imported, but strictly for consumption and not cultivation.	
Zambia	Ratified			July 2002: The government rejected GE food aid. The ban is still in place, pending the passing of biosafety legislation.
Zimbabwe	Ratified			May 2002: Zimbabwe rejected GM food aid. No GMOs are currently allowed into the country, with the exception of milled maize.



# ASIA

\* Refer to *Regional Regulations & Prohibition Chart* for more information

Country	Protocol on Biosafety	Labeling Requirements	Ban or Moratorium on Commercialization	Ban on Imports
Afghanistan				
Bahrain				
Bangladesh	Ratified			
Bhutan	Ratified			
Brunei				
Burma (Myanmar)	Signed			
Cambodia	Ratified			
China *	Ratified	January 2002: Decree No. 10 of the Ministry of Agriculture.  <a href="http://www.agri.gov.cn/">www.agri.gov.cn/</a> (in Chinese)		
East Timor				
Hong Kong				
India	Ratified			
Indonesia	Ratified	1996 Food Law contains regulation regarding labeling, however it has yet to be implemented.  <a href="http://www.deptan.go.id/english/peraturan_e/bdd.htm">www.deptan.go.id/english/peraturan_e/bdd.htm</a>		
Iran	Ratified			
Iraq				
Israel				
Japan *	Ratified	March 2003: Food Sanitation Law and Japan Agricultural Standards Law  <a href="http://www.maff.go.jp/soshiki/syokuhin/hinshitu/organic/eng_yuki_gmo.pdf">http://www.maff.go.jp/soshiki/syokuhin/hinshitu/organic/eng_yuki_gmo.pdf</a> (Labeling Standard for Genetically Modified Foods) <a href="http://www.maff.go.jp/soshiki/syokuhin/hinshitu/organic/eng_yuki_top.htm">http://www.maff.go.jp/soshiki/syokuhin/hinshitu/organic/eng_yuki_top.htm</a> (Japan Agricultural Standards site) <a href="http://www.jetro.go.jp/se/e/standards_regulation/food2003mar-e.pdf">http://www.jetro.go.jp/se/e/standards_regulation/food2003mar-e.pdf</a> (Food Sanitation Law)		
Jordan	Ratified			
Kazakhstan				
Korea (North)	Ratified			
Korea (South)	Signed	March 2002: Regulated by the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry and the Korea Food and Drug Administration.  <a href="http://www.maf.go.kr/">http://www.maf.go.kr/</a> <a href="http://www.kfda.go.kr/">http://www.kfda.go.kr/</a>		
Kuwait				
Kyrgyzstan				

Laos	Ratified			
Lebanon				
Malaysia	Ratified			
Maldives	Ratified			
Mongolia	Ratified			
Nepal	Signed			
Oman	Ratified			
Pakistan	Signed			
Philippines *	Signed	<p>August 2001: House Bill 1647</p> <p><a href="http://www.congress.gov.ph/download/billtext/hb01647.pdf">http://www.congress.gov.ph/download/billtext/hb01647.pdf</a></p>		
Qatar				
Russian Federation		<p>January 2005: GOST P 51074-2003 brings Russian food regulation standards (including labeling) into line with international standards.</p>		
Saudi Arabia		<p>December 2001: Saudi Ministry of Commerce Decree No. 1666.</p> <p><a href="http://www.commerce.gov.sa/english/">www.commerce.gov.sa/english/</a> (Ministry of Commerce site, under construction)</p> <p><a href="http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200311/146085199.pdf">http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200311/146085199.pdf</a> (summary of Decree, USDA GAIN Report #SA3015) If a product contains one or more genetically modified plant ingredients, the information should be clearly communicated to the consumer by labeling. A triangle should be drawn and in it the text should read "Contains Genetically Modified Product (s)."</p>	Use of GM seed is banned.	Explicitly bans imports and agricultural use of genetically modified (GM) animals and their byproducts, as well as imports of GM seeds, dates, and decorative plants.
Singapore				
Sri Lanka	Ratified			
Syria	Ratified			
Taiwan		<p>February 2001: Department of Health No. 0900011746</p> <p><a href="http://www.doh.gov.tw/dohenglish/Laws/Laws_Content.asp?No=147&amp;ClassName=&amp;ClassNo=L03">http://www.doh.gov.tw/dohenglish/Laws/Laws_Content.asp?No=147&amp;ClassName=&amp;ClassNo=L03</a></p>		
Tajikistan	Ratified			
Thailand		<p>2002: Public Health Ministry Announcement</p> <p><a href="http://eng.moph.go.th/Content.asp">http://eng.moph.go.th/Content.asp</a> (Public Health Ministry site)</p>	<p>2001: All commercial production and trade in GMOs banned for 3 years.</p> <p><a href="http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200305/145885544.pdf">http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200305/145885544.pdf</a> (summary USDA Gain Report #TH3054)</p>	The 1964 Plant Quarantine Act prohibits imports without a permit from the Dept. of Ag.; permits are only for experimental purposes.
Turkey	Ratified			
Turkmenistan				
United Arab Emirates				
Uzbekistan				
Vietnam	Ratified			
Yemen				



# EUROPE

\* Refer to *Regional Regulations & Prohibition Chart* for more information

Country EU Member	Protocol on Biosafety	Labeling Requirements	Ban or Moratorium on Commercialization	Ban on Imports
European Union	Ratified	<p>April 2004: EU requires all foods and ingredients produced from GMOs to be labeled, except 'adventitious' levels up to 0.9% of those GMOs currently approved in the EU.</p> <p>Regulation No. 1830/2003  <a href="http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_268/l_26820031018en00240028.pdf">http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_268/l_26820031018en00240028.pdf</a></p> <p>Regulation No. 1829/2003  <a href="http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_268/l_26820031018en00010023.pdf">http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_268/l_26820031018en00010023.pdf</a></p>	<p>Sept. 8, 2004: European Commission approves the first GE seeds for purchase and planting, marking the end of a nearly six year de facto moratorium.</p>	<p>May 19, 2004: European Commission votes to allow imports of Bt-11 maize, ending a de facto moratorium in place since 1998.</p>
Albania *	Ratified		<p>June 2003: Albania instituted a five-year ban on GE crops and foods, including food aid.</p>	<p>June 2003: Albania instituted a five-year ban on GE crops and foods, including food aid.</p>
Andorra				
Armenia	Ratified			
Austria *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<p>Between 1997 and 2000: Austria banned three varieties of GM maize using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).</p>	<p>Between 1997 and 2000: Austria banned three varieties of GM maize using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).</p>
Azerbaijan	Ratified			
Belarus	Ratified			
Belgium *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Bosnia and Herzegovina				
Bulgaria	Ratified	<p>March 2005: Genetically Modified Organisms Act</p> <p>State Gazette No. 27/29/03/2005  <a href="http://www2.moew.government.bg/recent_doc/europe/ZGMO-ENGL.doc">http://www2.moew.government.bg/recent_doc/europe/ZGMO-ENGL.doc</a></p>	<p>March 2005: Ban on production or sale of GM products including wheat, tobacco, vine, cotton, damask rose and all vegetable and orchard crops. Includes products banned in EU.</p>	
Croatia	Ratified	<p>Food Law</p> <p><a href="http://www.mac.doc.gov/ceebic/countryr/Croatia/RECON/draftfoodlaw.pdf">http://www.mac.doc.gov/ceebic/countryr/Croatia/RECON/draftfoodlaw.pdf</a></p>		
Cyprus	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Czech Republic	Ratified	EU Compliant		

Denmark	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Estonia	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Finland *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
France *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<u>November 1998</u> : France banned two varieties of GM rapeseed under the safeguard clause of EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18)	<u>November 1998</u> : France banned two varieties of GM rapeseed under the safeguard clause of EU legislation
Georgia			<u>April 1996</u> : Ban on GM import & cultivation until legislation is created.	<u>April 1996</u> : Ban on GM import & cultivation until legislation is created.
Germany *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<u>January 2005</u> : Genetic Engineering Act came into force; DOES NOT BAN cultivation outright, but it does make GM farmers liable for contamination & otherwise strongly dissuades use of GM crops. <u>March 2000</u> : Germany banned a variety of GM maize using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).	<u>March 2000</u> : Germany banned a variety of GM maize using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).
Greece *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<u>September 1998</u> : Greece banned a variety of GM rapeseed using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).	<u>September 1998</u> : Greece banned a variety of GM rapeseed using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).
Hungary *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<u>January 2005</u> : Temporary measure banning production, use, distribution & import of MON 810 maize seeds (an EU approved crop).	<u>January 2005</u> : Temporary measure banning production, use, distribution & import of MON 810 maize seeds (an EU approved crop).
Iceland	Signed			
Ireland *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Italy *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<u>February 2005</u> : Italian parliament replaced the 2000 ban on GM food, feed & cultivation with a co-existence law that allows each region to set its own rules. NOT A BAN, however most regions have said they want to remain GE-free.	
Latvia	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Liechtenstein				
Lithuania	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Luxembourg	Ratified	EU Compliant	<u>February 1997</u> : Luxembourg banned a variety of GM maize using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).	<u>February 1997</u> : Luxembourg banned a variety of GM maize using the safeguard clause in EU legislation (article 16 in directive 90/220 or article 23 in 2001/18).
Macedonia	Ratified			
Malta		EU Compliant		

Moldova	Ratified			
Monaco	Signed			
Netherlands *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Norway	Ratified	<p><u>October 1997:</u> Products containing GM material are labeled if the modified component constitutes more than 2% of the ingredients.</p> <p>USDA GAIN Report #NO4004</p>	<p>NO BAN, however Norway is a member of the European Economic Agreement and is obligated to follow EU food safety standards. Despite this, Norway still has the authority to reject any EU approved GMO and has done so eight times. Currently, the only GM products that have been approved for marketing are non-food (tobacco &amp; carnations).</p>	
Poland *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Portugal *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Romania	Ratified			
San Marino				
Slovakia	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Slovenia *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Spain *	Ratified	EU Compliant	<p><u>April 2004:</u> Spain banned commercialization of Syngenta's Bt176 corn.</p>	
Sweden	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Switzerland *	Ratified	<p><u>As of March 2005:</u> The new threshold value of allowable GMO content in food will be 0.9% (EU standard).</p>		
Ukraine	Ratified			
United Kingdom *	Ratified	EU Compliant		
Vatican City				
Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	Ratified			



# NORTH AMERICA

\* Refer to *Regional Regulations & Prohibition Chart* for more information

Country	Protocol on Biosafety	Labeling Requirements	Ban on Commercialization	Ban on Imports
Antigua and Barbuda	Ratified			
Bahamas	Ratified			
Barbados	Ratified			
Belize	Ratified			
Canada *	Signed			
Costa Rica	Signed			
Cuba	Ratified			
Dominica	Ratified			
Dominican Republic				
El Salvador	Ratified		1999: National Strategy for Biological Diversity allows experimental planting of biotech cotton but does not permit the planting of other biotech crops.	
Grenada	Ratified			
Guatemala	Ratified			
Haiti	Signed			
Honduras	Signed			
Jamaica	Signed			
Mexico	Ratified	April 2003: Law of Biosafety for Genetically Modified Organisms	February 2005: Legislation allowing the planting and sale of GM crops is passed. October 2003: De facto moratorium on growing GE crops lifted to allow planting for experimental purposes. 1999: Ban on experimentation with corn.	
Nicaragua	Ratified			
Panama	Ratified			
St. Kitts and Nevis	Ratified			
St. Lucia	Ratified			
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Ratified			
Trinidad & Tobago	Ratified			
United States *				

# OCEANIA

\* Refer to *Regional Regulations & Prohibition Chart* for more information

Country	Protocol on Biosafety	Labeling Requirements	Ban on Commercialization	Ban on Imports
Australia *		Standard 1.5.2 of the Food Standards Code states that foods with >1% GM ingredients must be labeled. <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/Standard_1_5_2_GM_v69.pdf">http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/Standard_1_5_2_GM_v69.pdf</a>		
Fiji	Ratified			
Kiribati	Ratified			
Marshall Islands	Ratified			
Micronesia				
Nauru	Ratified			
New Zealand	Ratified	Standard 1.5.2 of the Food Standards Code states that foods with >1% GM ingredients must be labeled. <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/Standard_1_5_2_GM_v69.pdf">http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/Standard_1_5_2_GM_v69.pdf</a>	NO BAN, however there have been no approved release applications due to strict regulations.	NO BAN, however strict regulations have resulted in no live GMO crops or seeds approved for importation.
Palau	Ratified			
Papua New Guinea				
Samoa	Ratified			
Solomon Islands	Ratified			
Tonga	Ratified			
Tuvalu				
Vanuatu				



# SOUTH AMERICA

\* Refer to *Regional Regulations & Prohibition Chart* for more information

Country	Protocol on Biosafety	Labeling Requirements	Ban on Commercialization	Ban on Imports
Argentina	Signed			
Bolivia	Ratified			
Brazil *	Ratified	<p>March 2004: Food products with &gt;1% GMO material must be labeled, except GM soy. It is unclear whether the law applies to imported products.</p> <p>Executive Order 4,680, April 24, 2003; Public Consultation Number 1 <a href="http://www.mj.gov.br/sde/">http://www.mj.gov.br/sde/</a> (Brazilian government site, in Spanish)</p>	<p>1/12/05: Provisional Measure 223 allows the planting &amp; marketing of GE soy until January 31, 2006 (this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> such measure passed in current administration). 10/6/04: The biotech-friendly biosafety bill passed in the Senate and is pending a House vote. This will re-establish the power of the National Technical Commission of Biosafety. 2000: Brazil has had a ban on the cultivation of GE soy since</p>	Law 8,974/95 prohibits the entry of GMOs without prior approval.
Chile	Signed	June 2000: Government Decree		
Colombia	Ratified			
Ecuador	Ratified	2001: Consumer Defense Law, Article 10.		
Guyana				
Paraguay	Ratified			
Peru	Ratified			
Suriname				
Uruguay	Signed			
Venezuela	Ratified		April 2004: President Chavez made a declaration banning all cultivation of GM crops; however, no official law or decree has been passed.	

