

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** October 30, 2024

**Report Number:** E42024-0036

**Report Name:** European Commission Authorizes Four GE Crops for Import

**Country:** European Union

**Post:** Brussels USEU

**Report Category:** Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies

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**Report Highlights:**

On October 8, 2024, the European Commission approved four genetically engineered crops (corn and cotton) for food and animal feed. The four authorizations were published in the European Union's Official Journal on October 10, 2024, and they remain valid for 10 years.

## Overview:

On October 8, 2024, the European Commission (EC) approved two genetically engineered (GE) maize/corn crops and renewed the authorization for one maize/corn crop and one cotton crop for food and animal feed. These four crops have gone through a comprehensive and stringent authorization procedure, including a favorable scientific assessment by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The authorization and renewal decisions apply to food and feed for import and processing, but do not cover cultivation, and are valid for 10 years. All products will be subject to the EU's strict labelling and traceability rules.

The Commission Implementing Decisions for the authorizations were published in the [Official Journal of the European Union, 10 October 2024](#):

- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2024/2628 of 8 October 2024 renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 89034 × 1507 × NK603 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2024\) 6915\)](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2024/2629 of 8 October 2024 renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 89034 × 1507 × MON 88017 × 59122 and eight of its sub-combinations pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2024\) 6892\)](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2024/2618 of 8 October 2024 authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize DP202216 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2024\) 6941\)](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2024/2627 of 8 October 2024 authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified cotton COT102 pursuant to Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(notified under document C\(2024\) 6938\)](#)

## Authorization Process:

The four GE crops have gone through the EU's full authorization procedure, including a favorable scientific assessment by EFSA, as set in Directive 2001/18/EC. After a positive evaluation by EFSA, the EC puts forward a proposal for the authorization of the events that must be voted at the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF) for Genetically Modified Food and Feed and Environmental Risk by EU Member State (MS) representatives. A positive outcome in the PAFF Committee requires a qualified majority. Member States did not reach a qualified majority either in favor or against the GE crops at the Standing Committee and at the subsequent Appeal Committee thus the Commission has the legal duty to proceed with the authorizations.

**Consideration and Outlook:**

These four events were all discussed during the PAFF Committee meeting on July 8, 2024. The Appeal Committee meeting took place on September 3, 2024. This is the third group of GE approvals for export to the EU that the Commission has approved in 2024.

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.