

PRESS RELEASE 25 September 2024

Non-GMO industry meets for the International Non-GMO Summit

Updates on new genetic engineering, EU regulations, market & science perspectives – with a global business audience

Frankfurt/ The leading European associations of the Non-GMO food and feed industry are hosting the **'International Non-GMO Summit 2024'** in Frankfurt am Main on 7-8 October 2024. International experts from politics, business, agricultural production and science will present the latest on trends in global Non-GMO markets and on the current debate in the EU on new genomic techniques (NGTs).

In a recent open letter to the EU ministers of agriculture, the European food industry urgently calls for a review of the planned revision of the EU's Genetic Engineering Law. The 376 signatory companies from 16 EU member states, including major retailers and industry leaders in the food sector, are demanding far-reaching measures to ensure that food production without genetic engineering can continue in a transparent, traceable and safe way. **Dr. István Nagy**, the current President of the EU Council for Agriculture and Fisheries, welcomed the corporate initiative when he was personally presented with the document and expressed his willingness to support the companies' concerns.

Non-GMO in the spotlight of business and politics

The Summit will bring together key players from international politics, Non-GMO producers and traders and different science disciplines – confirming the importance of topics related to new genetic engineering techniques. **Dr. Nagy** will open the summit in Frankfurt with a welcome address. The German **Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture** (BMEL) and the **German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation** (BfN) as well as the **Austrian Ministry of Consumer Protection** will also be present at the Non-GMO Summit. Representatives of the Non-GMO industry from Brazil and the USA as well as a business delegation from the Republic of Moldova will attend the summit.

The success of the Non-GMO market is at risk

For over 20 years, genetic engineering has not been able to gain a foothold in Europe because a significant proportion of the food industry and retail have clear and solid Non-GMO policies and reject the production or selling of products that contain GMOs. In addition, a large majority of European consumers rejects the use of GMOs in food and agriculture*. Transparency and labelling are essential so that farmers, food producers and consumers can make an informed decision and exercise their right for freedom of choice. In other parts of the world, where GMO plants are cultivated, their introduction has been marked by failures. The manifold promises of the GMO industry have so far remained largely unfulfilled. At the Non-GMO Summit internationally renowned

business representatives, who are justifiably concerned about their Non-GMO product portfolio and fear losing the trust of their customers, will have the opportunity to raise their voices.

Background information

*European Greens 2021: GMO survey consumer attitudes

https://www.greens-efa.eu/files/assets/docs/gmo_survey_data_30032021.pdf

*German survey: Almost everyone wants labelling and risk assessment for new genetic engineering (September 2023)

<https://www.ohnegentechnik.org/en/news/article/survey-almost-everyone-wants-labelling-and-risk-assessment-for-new-genetic-engineering>

*ARGE Gentechnikfrei: Marktforschungsergebnisse aus Österreich (Juli 2023)

<https://gentechnikfrei.at/umfrage-zur-neuen-gentechnik-konsumentinnen-wollen-transparenz-kontrolle-und-kennzeichnung/>

The complete programme and important information can be found at www.nongmosummit.com.

International Non-GMO Summit 2024

Date: 7-8 October 2024

Location: Crowne Plaza Kongresshotel, Lyoner Straße 44-48, 60528 Frankfurt am Main

Topic/Title: **'The Future of GMO-free Production: Challenges, Regulatory Outlook and Market Potential'**

The International Non-GMO Summit is organised by the leading business associations in the Non-GMO market: [Verband Lebensmittel ohne Gentechnik](#) (VLOG), [ARGE Gentechnik-frei](#), [Donau Soja](#), [ENGA](#) and [ProTerraFoundation](#).

Please *register for accreditation with the Association Food without Genetic Engineering (VLOG), Karin Heinze, email: K.Heinze@ohnegentechnik.org*

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