



OECD's work in the context of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

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**12th meeting of the BCH – IAC,
Canada, Montreal, 15-16 May 2023**



Contents

1) OECD BioTrack product database

2) Extension of Unique Identifier system to transgenic animals



1. BioTrack database - introduction -

- Information on **commercially approved L.M. Plants**
- Provided by **National authorities*** on **voluntary basis** (regardless of OECD members or not)
 - * It also means that all the information in the BioTrack database is official data published by governments.*
- **Regulated by the OECD Working Party on the Harmonisation of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology (WP-HROB)**



1. BioTrack database - introduction -



Product Database

- Home page
- Disclaimer

Browse by

- Unique Identifier
- Organism
- Company
- Country
- Trait

OECD public database allows regulatory officials and other interested stakeholders to easily share basic information on products derived from the use of modern biotechnology, as well as some products with novel traits acquired by the use of conventional breeding or mutagenesis, that have been approved for commercial application in at least one country, in terms of food, feed or environmental safety.

This database accommodates **Unique Identifiers**, which are intended to be used as "keys" to access information of each transgenic product in this database. The coding system of Unique Identifiers was developed by the OECD Working Group on Biosafety and has since been recognised as an appropriate identification system of products included in [the database of Biosafety Clearing House \(BCH\)](#) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as in [the newly designed FAO GM Foods Platform](#).

This database is updated using information provided on a voluntary basis by authorities in OECD member/non-member countries and certain institutions that developed these products. Unique Identifiers and relevant information on **LMOs** are then transferred to the database of the Biosafety Clearing-house (BCH), based on memorandum of corporation between the Secretariat of OECD and the Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity.

- Contained **393 LM plants, 26 plant species.**
- **17 countries + E.U. Incl. 7 non-OECD members**

Direct access to OECD Database:
<https://biotrackproductdatabase.oecd.org/>



1. BioTrack database - information -

- Organisms name (apple, rice, safflower e.t.c.)
- Traits (tolerance to..., production of..., e.t.c.)
- Modified Gene
- Developer
- Type of use (food, feed, env release)
- Decision
- Risk assessment
- OECD Unique Identifier (UI)



1. BioTrack database - what's UI? -

- Key to **access** information on LM plants and to **exchange** information
- Assigned by the **developer**
- Stipulated by a **guidance document**:
REVISED 2006: OECD guidance for the designation of a Unique Identifier for transgenic plants, available from the database



1. BioTrack database - how to use -

Product Database

- Home page
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Unique Identifier	Organisms	Traits	First country	Date of approval
ACS-BNØ11-5	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Bromoxynil tolerance	Canada	February 18, 1997
ACS-BNØØ1-4	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Fertility restoration, Glufosinate tolerance, Kanamycin resistance	Canada	September 08, 1994
ACS-BNØØ2-5	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Fertility restoration, Glufosinate tolerance, Kanamycin resistance	Canada	April 28, 1995
ACS-BNØØ3-6	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Fertility restoration, Glufosinate tolerance	Canada	October 21, 1996
ACS-BNØØ4-7	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Glufosinate tolerance, Kanamycin resistance, Male sterility	Canada	September 08, 1994
ACS-BNØØ4-7 x ACS-BNØØ1-4	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Glufosinate tolerance, Kanamycin resistance	Canada	September 08, 1994
ACS-BNØØ4-7 x ACS-BNØØ2-5	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Glufosinate tolerance, Kanamycin resistance	Canada	April 28, 1995
ACS-BNØØ5-8	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Glufosinate tolerance, Male sterility	Canada	October 21, 1996
ACS-BNØØ5-8 x ACS-BNØØ3-6	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed	Glufosinate tolerance	Canada	October 21, 1996



1. BioTrack database - how to use -

*General info.
on the LMO*

ACS-BN001-4

Transformation Event	RF1 (B93-101)
Trade Name	InVigor canola
Applicant	Bayer CropScience
Organism Common Names	Canola, Oilseed rape, Rape Seed
Organism Scientific Names	Brassica napus
Centre of Origin and Diversity	Biology Consensus Doc on Brassica Crops
Food and Feed Safety Issues	Compositional considerations for Canola
Methods for safe handling	
Additional Information	
Traits	Fertility restoration, Resistance to Kanamycin, Tolerance to Glufosinate
Genes	barstar, neomycin phosphotransferase II (npt II), phosphinothricin acetyltransferase (pat)

*Approvals in
each country*

Australia

Date of approval	Type of use	Authority	Decision	Risk assessment	Methods for materials
May 09, 2002	Food	Food Standards Australia New Zealand	A372		
July 25, 2003	Commercial Release	Office of the Gene Technology Regulator	DIR-021/2002	DIR-021/2002	

Canada

Date of approval	Type of use	Authority	Decision	Risk assessment	Methods for materials
April 28, 1995	Feed	Canadian Food Inspection Agency - Animal Feed Division	DD95-04		
September 08, 1994	Food	Health Canada - GM Foods and Other Novel Foods	FD/OFB-094-251-A		



1. BioTrack database - how to use -

ACS-BN001-4

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Methods for safe handling	

- Biology document contains: habitat, gene, ecology etc.
- Compositional document contains: nutrients, toxicants, allergies etc.



1. BioTrack database - how to use -

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- Each product page contains OFFICIAL information on approval decision, and risk assessment by regulators.

** Since providing these information is not a must, some of the products don't have info. on decision or RA. The OECD always encourages countries to provide them to enhance the value of the BioTrack database.*



2. Extension of UI - recommend from last meeting -

*Continue discussions with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) with the aim of assessing the possibility for OECD to **develop permanent unique identifiers for living modified animals** in the near future;*

11th BCH-IAC meeting, December 2020, CBD/CP/BCH-IAC/11/3



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2. Extension of UI - Discussion in the OECD -

March 2021: Discussed and approved by the WP-HROB to examine the **possibility** of UI extension to LM animals.

Sept. 2021: First **proposal** was sent to the WP-HROB. Agreed to **established the Ad hoc group**.

Jan. 2022: First Ad hoc group meeting was held.

- a. Application (only commercial use?)
- b. Products (only LMOs?)
- c. Usage
- d. Questionnaire



2. Extension of UI – what's next? -

- **April 2023:** At 37th WP-HROB, a number of delegates expressed **support** on the schedule below.

Q2 2023: Develop the draft Questionnaire by the Ad hoc group

Q3 2023: Finalise and circulate the Questionnaire

Q4 2023: Analyse replies of the Questionnaire by Ad hoc group

March 2024: Report on the results to 38th WP-HROB



Thank you!

Relative links (Hyperlink):

[OECD database](#); [Biology documents](#); [Composition documents](#);
[Other information](#).

If you have questions or interests in our activities:

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