



National Federation of Agricultural Cooperators and Producers (MOSZ) (Hungary)

InnoPlanta Forum 2011

**- Can Europe do without green gene
technology?**

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Katalin Csordás
counsellor

About MOSZ

- **The most comprehensive representation of agricultural producers in Hungary.**
- **The nationwide federation defines itself as a business, employer and co-operation representation organization involved in the field of agriculture and operating as a social organization under the rules of the union law.**
- **Our members are agricultural ventures (Ltd, limited partnership, joint stock companies), cooperatives and single farmers.**

Key crops and their challenges in the country

The 5 key crops grown in Hungary

Year	2011		
Unit	thousand ha	thousand tons	kg/ha
Wheat	952	3 892	4 088
Maize	1 224	8 108	6 622
Sunflower	575	1 374	2 390
Barley	267	971	3 636
Rape	237	521	2 192

Challenges :

- Wheat–Fusarium infections
- Corn–Diabrotica virgifera, drought tolerance
- Sunflower – Sclerotinia sclerotiorum, Orobanche cernua
- Rape – quality, insect resistance

Experiences of farmers with GM regulations and policies in Hungary

- There is zero tolerance in Hungary regarding to GM organizations: It is not permitted to sow or reap any GMO-„contaminated” seeds or crops in Hungary.
- Remaining free of GMO is in Hungary’s national strategy and this is also included in the new Constitution.
- Increased monitoring of GMOs were ordered this spring. According to the laws in effect, plants and seeds „contaminated” with GMOs must had been destroyed.
- 4500 ha where GM seeds had been sown+4500 ha buffer areas were destructed, 225 farmers directly and 2500 farmers indirectly were affected.

Experiences of scientists with GM field trials and the regulations


There is no state subsidy to any biotechnological researches and there are inexecutable conditions for outdoor field tests.

Policy of the government regarding to GMOs

The standpoint of the Government and the Ministry of Rural Development is clear: remaining free of GMOs is a national strategic interest for Hungary and „there is no facts or circumstances may arise that could cause the Hungarian government to change its standpoint on this issue”.

„Take home” message

A clear regulation is necessary all over the European Union on the basis of the same principle, and a concrete limit should be determined (for permitted maximum GMO content) which is valid in the whole EU.

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**