

The Farmers – Scientists Network (FSN)

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The Farmers – Scientists Network

The network brings together:

- 1) Farmers who wish to have the freedom of choice to use the crops they find best suited for their needs, including approved GM crops.
- 2) Public sector scientists active in biotechnology research for the common good – PRRI

The Public Research and Regulation Initiative (PRRI) is a world-wide initiative of public sector scientists active in biotechnology research for the common good. PRRI offers scientists a platform to be informed about and involved in international regulations and policies

The Farmers Scientist Network (FSN)

Main objective of the network is exchange of information, with the overall goal to strengthen the voice of farmers and science in the European debate on GMOs.

The FSN is a network, not an organisation.

Activities in 2011

The network was established in January 2011, and in 2011 it supported members in:

- Participating in events organised by the EU institutions, such as hearings organised by the Commission.
- Drafting letters and statements, such as a letter to MEPs on the GMO cultivation proposal.
- Organising events, such as a special session for farmers and scientists at the InnoPlanta Forum 2011

Current members of the network

1. AgroBiotechRom (Romania, www.agrobiotechrom.ro),
2. Asociación Agraria Jóvenes Agricultores (ASAJA, Spain, www.asajanet.com),
3. Association Française des Biotechnologies Végétales (AFBV, France, <http://www.biotechnologies-vegetales.com>),
4. FuturAgra (Italy, <http://www.futuraagra.it>),
5. InnoPlanta (Germany, www.innoplanta.de),
6. National Farmers Union (NFU England and Wales, www.nfuonline.com),
7. Conservation Agriculture Association (APOSOLO, Portugal, www.aposolo.pt),
8. Public Research and Regulation Initiative (PRRI, www.pubresreg.org).

Organizations involved in ad hoc activities

1. Confagricoltura (Italy, www.confagricoltura.it),
2. Cooperativas Agro-alimentarias (Spain, www.agro-alimentarias.coop),
3. European Confederation of Maize (CEPM, www.maizeurop.com),
4. Association of Maize producers (AGPM, France),
5. Association of wheat, maize and oilseed producers (ORAMA, France)),
6. National Farmers' Union of Scotland (NFUS, www.nfus.org.uk/),
7. Association of Cereal producers (Anpoc, Portugal),
8. National Federation of Agricultural Cooperators and Producers ([MOSZ](http://www.mosz.hu), Hungary),
9. Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute-National Research Institute (Poland),
10. Polish Associations of Cereal Producers and Maize Producers.

Activities in 2012

1. Expanding and consolidating the network.
2. Facilitating the participation of members in EU events.
3. Supporting ad hoc activities of members.
4. Organising information sessions on selected topics.

Welcome to join the network are:

- Large nation wide farmer unions
- Small farmers organizations with a specific focus
- Individual farmers

Support:

- Informing members about upcoming EU events
- Assist with travel and accommodation
- Organise preparatory meetings where necessary
- Coordinate reporting on meetings attended by members

Topics of interest:

- Evaluation and revision of the EU regulatory framework,
- The ‘cultivation–nationalisation’ proposal,
- Thresholds in food and seed,
- Review of EFSA guidelines
- Transformation of EFSA guidelines in regulations
- GMO free labeling,
- CAP reform (e.g. research, innovation, competitiveness),
- Socio-economic impacts of GMO cultivation.

Questions about the farmers - scientists network can be addressed to:

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