

ABSTRACTS FOR COLLOQUIUM 2013

Ukraine: implantation of agrobiotech

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Urgency of food problem is constantly increasing due to global climatic, social and demographic tendencies, that are currently having place in the modern world. Food production lags behind the population growth. Food deficiency level is reaching 60 million ton mark, this condition according to many scientists could not be fixed via the usage of traditional agrobiotechnological means, such as the increase in the amount of cultivated areas, breeding of additional cattle and other traditional forms of stimulation for farming and animal husbandry. Food market experts believe that switching to organic biotechnologies would only worsen the situation with food supply rates. Biosphere is only capable to feed 1 billion people without endangering its self-recovery abilities. New way to solve the food shortage in all corners of our planet lies with the development of agrobiotech.

Ukrainian Law "On biosecurity of the state when dealing with creation, approbation, transportation and usage of genetically modified products" forbids industrial production of any kind of GMO-based products. Today, there is not a single species listed in the state registry of GMO products, although Ukraine was the first among post-soviet countries to introduce the GMO plants to its agriculture. Many national agricultural experts agree that it is economically beneficial to implement the GMO. Ukrainian farmers may drastically improve their profits by roughly 4 billion Hrn. per year if the stick to using modern agrobiotech. The key question in deciding whether or not Ukrainian agricultural industry must ubiquitously implement newest advances of the agrobiotech lies with finding out if GM products are safe for human health. Also, the consumer should be informed whether the sugar he is holding in his hands contains GM components or not to make a conscious decision.

KEY WORDS (max. 5 words) food production problems, biotechnology, biosecurity, genetically modified products