MADGE
Australia Inc.

For Immediate Release: 17 March 2011

Serious alert about our Food Regulator; mother calls in MADGE.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has put out documents for public comment on two GM crops owned by Dow AgroSciences (corn[1], soy[2]).

A mother of two very young children alerted MADGE to the documents, incredulous at what she'd found.

MADGE's Madeleine Love said "There were no animal feeding trials. Dow had conducted only one acute toxicity trial, where a GM protein was trialled on only 5 male and 5 female mice. They were given 2 doses one hour apart and observed for 2 weeks."

"On examination "one male mouse had signs of an ulcer in the stomach, and one female mouse had a dark area in the cerebrum of the brain"."

"FSANZ wrote "These findings were considered to be incidental and unrelated to treatment" and concluded that no potential public health and safety concerns were identified in the assessment of the crop."

But Ms Love asked "If these findings were not related to the GM protein, are we to conclude that the trial was just unlucky in using a particularly unhealthy sample of 10 little mice?"

"This isn't a one-off. In Dow's other GM crop (soy) a similar toxicity trial yielded a kidney cyst in a female mouse, for no explanation."

These GM crops were developed to be tolerant to the herbicide "2,4-D", one of the chemical components of Agent Orange.*

* Superweeds growing in US GM crops are no longer responding to the major GM herbicide Roundup, and this harsher chemical will allow farmers to maintain 'spray weedkiller over the top' GM agriculture.

"A mother untrained in science is able to notice the obvious deficiencies in a FSANZ GM safety assessment. I think there are some hard truths that need to be faced and dealt with."

Contact: **Madeleine Love** **0447 762 284**
Fran Murrell **0401 407 944**

An article out today: http://www.ibj.com/dow-agro-thinks-it-has-a-winner/PARAMS/article/25939

---

[1] APPLICATION A1042 – FOOD DERIVED FROM HERBICIDE TOLERANT CORN LINE DAS-40278-9

http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodstandards/applications/applicationa1042food4758.cfm

An acute oral toxicity study using mice was conducted to examine the potential toxicity of the AAD-1 protein. For this purpose, the *P. fluorescens*-derived AAD-1 protein was employed.
The AAD-1 protein from *P. fluorescens* was shown in rigorous testing to be equivalent to plant-derived AAD-1 (see section 4.2).

Study submitted:

C.M. Wiescinski and R.M. Golden (2007). AAD-1: acute oral toxicity study in CRL:CD1(ICR) mice.
The Dow Chemical Company study 071128
A maximum test dose of 2000 mg AAD-1/kg bw was administered by gavage to CRL:CD1(ICR) mice (5/sex). The dose was administered as a 2 x 12.5 ml/kg bw suspension of 20% test material in 0.5% aqueous methylcellulose approximately one hour apart.
The animals were observed for signs of toxicity daily for 14 days after dosing. Body weights were obtained on test days 1, 2, 8 and 15. At the end of the study, the animals were killed and examined for gross necroscopy findings.
All mice survived the duration of the study. No clinical signs were observed. All animals gained weight during the study. Necroscopy on day 15 revealed no visible lesions in 4/5 male mice and 4/5 female mice. One male mouse had signs of an ulcer in the stomach, and one female mouse had a dark area in the cerebrum of the brain. These findings were considered to be incidental and unrelated to treatment. No other lesions were present.

Conclusion

No potential public health and safety concerns have been identified in the assessment of insect-protected corn DAS-40278-9. On the basis of the data provided in the present application, and other available information, food derived from corn DAS-40278-9 is considered to be as safe for human consumption as food derived from conventional corn cultivars.

[2] APPLICATION A1046 – FOOD DERIVED FROM HERBICIDE TOLERANT SOYBEAN LINE DAS-68416-4

http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodstandards/applications/applicationa1046food4807.cfm

Table 5: Study design for acute oral toxicity testing of AAD-12

Test material AAD-12 derived from *Pseudomonas fluorescens*
Vehicle 0.5% aqueous methylcellulose
Test Species Crl:CD1 (ICR) mice (five females and five males) – 8 weeks old on day of treatment
Dose 2 x separate doses of test substance by oral gavage, within 1h. Actual total dose was 2,000 mg/kg body weight AAD-12**
Control None

** The dose of 2,000 mg/kg body weight is the maximum unexceptional dose recommended by the OECD for the testing of acute oral toxicity using the fixed dose procedure (OECD, 2001b).

Mice were observed for mortality, body weight gain and clinical signs over 14 days. At the end of the study all animals were killed and examined for organ or tissue damage or dysfunction. All mice survived for the duration of the study. No clinical signs of systemic toxicity were observed. No macroscopic abnormalities were

present in the mice at necropsy on day 14. A cyst in the cortex of the kidney of one female mouse was observed; this was not considered to be associated with the administration of AAD-12. Under the conditions of this study, administration of AAD-12 protein to female and male mice at a dose of 2,000 mg /kg bw produced no test substance-related clinical signs of toxicity, body weight losses, macroscopic abnormalities or mortality. These results support the conclusion that the AAD-12 protein is not acutely toxic.

Conclusion

No potential public health and safety concerns have been identified in the assessment of soybean line DAS-68416-4. On the basis of the data provided in the present Application, and other available information, food derived from soybean line DAS-68416-4 is considered to be as safe for human consumption as food derived from conventional soybean cultivars