

GMO free regions in Germany

In Germany, GMO free regions are founded by conventional and organic farmers. By signing contracts - voluntary self obligations - they are expressing their commitment among each other not to grow genetically modified plants on their farmland. Additionally, half of the contracts exclusively allow the use of GMO free feeding stuff.

The first GMO free region in Germany was founded in 2003. Until June 2009 more than 29.000 farmers on more than 1 million hectares farmland were organised in 188 GMO free regions. That means that almost ten percent of the German farmland is declared GMO free by approximately ten percent of all German farmers.

Concerning German agriculture in general there is no commercial growing of genetically engineered plants. The only plant which was cultivated - Monsanto's GM-corn MON 810 - is officially banned since April 14th 2009. The movement of GMO free regions is a strong signal to the biotech industry that German farmers are no potential clients.