


GMO monitoring

WG 53 - GMO monitoring

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GMO monitoring

WG members


- Federal Environment Agency, Vienna, Environmental Impact Assessment & Biosafety
- Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Bonn, Division I.1.3 Monitoring
- Federal Office for the Environment, Berne, Biotechnology and Flux of Substances Section
- EcoStrat GmbH, Zurich / Berlin: chair



GMO monitoring

Goals of WG 53

- exchange of information on GMO monitoring
- discussion of GMO monitoring issues with the aim of forming a consensus view
- input of common positions into the discussion at the European level
- publication of papers on GMO monitoring in the EU-EMS eJournal.



GMO monitoring


Current project of WG 53

Definition of

- **minimum requirements** and
- **quality standards** for GMO monitoring

in order to

- guarantee the detection of environmental effects caused by GMOs deliberately released into the environment and
- standardize monitoring plans.




GMO monitoring

Aims

- confirm the results of the prerelease risk assessment.
- identify the occurrence of additional adverse effects of the GMO or its use on human health or the environment.

(as defined in EU directive 2001/18 EC on the deliberate release into the environment)



GMO monitoring


General challenges

- the identification and selection of suitable indicators.
- the selection of significant and practical sampling designs.



General challenges


- released GMOs are new to the environment.
- data on environmental behavior of GMOs are still limited.



General challenges

Therefore:


- identification of indicators (species or processes) has to be based on risk analysis and risk scenarios.
- starting point are cause and effect chains of the possible environmental effects of GMOs



General challenges

Since environmental effects will depend on the GMO released and its specific trait(s):

- selection of indicator species to be monitored within a GMO-monitoring has to be tailored to the GMO



R&D project

Procedures presented how to select faunistic indicator species to monitor effects of GMPs on biodiversity.

