

Seven Years of Non-GMO Labeling in Germany

A way to secure a GMO-free agriculture

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What is VLOG?

- VLOG – Verband Lebensmittel ohne Gentechnik (Association Food without Genetic Engineering)
- Represents food manufacturers and retailers as well as sectors upstream and downstream to food production
- Awards licenses for the standardized seal “Ohne GenTechnik” (Without Genetic Engineering/Non-GMO)



250 members and licensees that stand for
total annual sales of 130 billion Euros



History of Non-GMO labeling in Germany

- Until 2008 a labeling law, so strict, no one could implement it
- May 2008 a new Non-GMO labeling law comes into effect
- Informal committee of industry, retailers and NGOs, want to promote Non-GM labeling
- 2009: Federal ministry creates standardized seal and seeks an industry association to handle the licencing
- 2010: VLOG is founded and takes on the task

Development of „Ohne Gentechnik“-labeling

- From the beginning the „Ohne Gentechnik“-label was very controversial
 - Greens, Social Democrats, environmental and consumer NGOs in favour
 - Christian Democrats, Liberals, farmers-, food- and feed associations against
- As more and more market players are involved in the labeling system, resistance is diminishing
- Breakthrough over the last six months, as retailers have dropped their hesitation towards „Ohne Gentechnik“-labeling.
- 1.600 products labeled with the common „Ohne GenTechnik“-seal

Legal Requirements



Gesetz zur Durchführung der Verordnungen der Europäischen Gemeinschaft auf dem Gebiet der Gentechnik und über die Kennzeichnung ohne Anwendung gentechnischer Verfahren hergestellter Lebensmittel (German Act on the Implementation of EU Regulations in the Field of Biotechnology and on the Labeling of Foodstuffs Produced without the Use of Biotechnology)

EG-Gentechnik-Durchführungsgesetz - **EGGenTDurchfG**)

Notification available in all EU languages: <http://bit.ly/1JKBfgI> (only §§ 3a and 3b matter)

Legal Requirements



EGGenTDurchfG

§ 3a

Relevant for all foodstuff, food ingredients, and food additives if foodstuff is labeled „Ohne Gentechnik“:

No GMO, neither produced from nor by GMOs is allowed. Tolerated contamination up to the limit of quantification of 0,1%

Legal Requirements



EGGenTDurchfG

§ 3a (4)

In the case of foodstuffs or food additives originating from animals, the animals, from which the foodstuffs have been produced, may not be given animal fodder ...

Legal Requirements



EGGenTDurchfG

§ 3a (4)

...which is labeled, or if it were marketed, would be labeled in accordance with

1. Articles 24 and 25 of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 or
2. Articles 4 and 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1830/2003

Legal Requirements



EGGenTDurchfG - Annex

Period prior to production of foodstuffs, within which the feeding of genetically modified animal fodder is not permissible

Animal Species	Period
Equidae and cattle for meat production	12 months or a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ of their life in any case
Small ruminants	6 month
Pigs	4 month
Milk-producing animals	3 month
Poultry for meat production	10 weeks
Poultry for egg-production	6 weeks

Legal Requirements

BUT:

- No mandatory external certification
- No mandatory use of standardized seal
- No harmonized regulation with other European national legal frameworks

Current and Future Challenges

- Development of certification standard. In use since 2013. Is being updated on a regular basis
www.ohnegentechnik.org/standard
- Bilateral recognition of certification standards with Austria
- Amend EGGenTDurchfG. E.g. by mandatory external certification
- Development of joint GE-free certification standard in the Danube Soya region in a GIZ-project, coordinated by the Umweltbundesamt Österreich (Environmental Agency Austria)

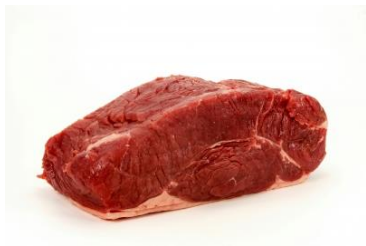
Relevance of „Ohne Gentechnik“ Production



50 % of bavarian milk produced according to „Ohne Gentechnik“ criteria. 25% collected and processed seperately. Germany wide about 10%



Almost all supermarket eggs produced „Ohne Gentechnik“. Growing percentage also labeled.



Poultry meat nearly completely produced „Ohne Gentechnik“ by end of 2015. Large parts labeled. Only nice markets for porc and beef.

Relevance of „Ohne Gentechnik“ Production

1.600 products authorised to use „Ohne Gentechnik“-seal

www.ohnegentechnik.org/produkt Datenbank

Suche

Unternehmen

Marke

Produktgruppe

[Filter zurücksetzen](#)

Bergkäse alt

Unternehmen	Bergkäserei Diepolz
Marke	Diepolzer
Produktgruppe	Käse
EAN-Nummer	4260357080209



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Unternehmen	Marke	Produkt	Produktgruppe
Arla Foods Deutschland GmbH	Arla Bergbauern	Alpkäse	Käse
Arla Foods Deutschland GmbH	Arla Bergbauern	Bergkäse 125 g	Käse
Arla Foods Deutschland GmbH	Arla Bergbauern	Oberstdorfer Bergkäse	Käse
Bergkäserei Diepolz	Diepolzer	Balsamicokäse	Käse
Bergkäserei Diennlzer	Diennlzer	Bärlauchkäse	Käse

Annual sales in Germany: 37 Billion Euro



[REWE Group](#) → [Sustainability](#) → [Publications](#) → [Guidelines for Sustainable Business Practices](#) → [Guideline for Soya](#)

GUIDELINE FOR SOY IN ANIMAL FEED

REWE Group aims to reduce the environmental impacts of soy production for animal feed ... REWE Group demands and promotes the successive substitution of soy meal imported from South America with domestic and European protein sources ... consumers prefer GMO-free food, i.e. food which is produced without genetically modified organisms. Therefore, REWE Group has defined freedom from genetic engineering as one of its demands.

Annual sales in Germany: 51 Billion Euro



„For the EDEKA brands EDEKA strives for a conversion of animal feed for pigs, cows and poultry to local, or to certified more responsible GM-free soy“

Retailer Position



During an intense dispute between the poultry industry and the retailers in 2014 the commitment of all retailers for a „Ohne Gentechnik“ production and labeling grew enormously.



Effect on feed imports

- Germany feeds about 4,5 million tons of soy meal per year
- Currently about 15-20% is GMO-free
- Volume will increase very likely

Conclusion

- „Ohne Gentechnik“-labeling...
 - enhances consumer choice
 - encourages food producers and retailers to demand GMO-free feed animal products
 - helps secure the GMO-free cultivation in Germany
 - creates demand for GMO free feed and therefore GMO-free cultivation in soy growing countries

Further Information

For further information please consult our homepage:

- www.ohnegentechnik.org (German)
- www.ohnegentechnik.org/en (English)

Thank you!

I should not have chosen the GMO meat



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