

GMO – Free Labelling in Luxembourg

A Presentation of the Current Situation



STRUCTURE

- Legislative Context – EU
- Situation in Luxembourg
- The GMO – Free Label
- Issues arising
- Conclusion



LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT – EU

Legislative Context-EU

Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Conclusion

- Main EU legislative texts with regards to GMOs are:
 - **Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003**
 - **Regulation (EC) No 1830/2003**
- Requirement : to label food and feed which contain GMOs
 - Tolerance threshold of 0.9 %
- Legislative gap



LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT – EU

Legislative Context-EU

Situation of Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Conclusion

Mandatory Labelling



No Mandatory Labelling



Mandatory Labelling



CONSUMERS NOT FULLY INFORMED



SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG

Legislative Context-EU

Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Conclusion

- Luxembourg positions itself as anti-GMO
 - One of the six EU Member states which invoked the safe-guard clause
 - Safe-guard clause has been used to ban the cultivation of GM maize “MON810” and potato “Amflora”
 - Political will to continue to defend an anti-GMO position:

“The Government will continue to apply the precautionary principle with regards to genetically modified organisms (GMO), to promote a sustainable agriculture “without GMOs” and to defend its critical stance towards GMOs both within Luxembourg as well as on the European and international level. To the extent possible, it will ban the use of GMOs at national level and will launch information and awareness-raising activities on this matter.”
- Many national environmental and consumer associations defend an anti-GMO stance
 - Public opinion is thus mainly against the cultivation as well as the use of GMOs in food



SITUATION EN LUXEMBOURG



Possible ways forward



v.fermemathay.lu/



SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG

Legislative Context-EU

Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Possible ways forward

- Official controls in general show a low presence of detected GMOs in food
 - EU legislation
 - National ban on cultivation of GMOs
 - Avoidance of cross-contamination

FEED

- Total of 34 samples between 2012-2014
 - 4 positive samples with cross-contamination at production level



SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG

Food

Legislative Context-EU

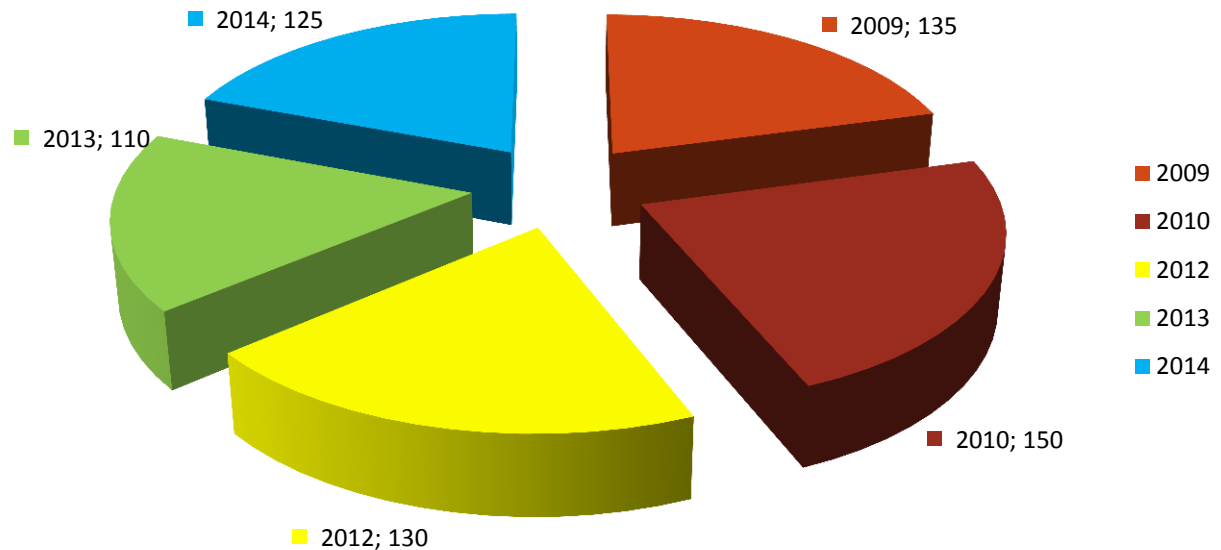
Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Possible ways forward

Number of samples





SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG

Food

Legislative Context-EU

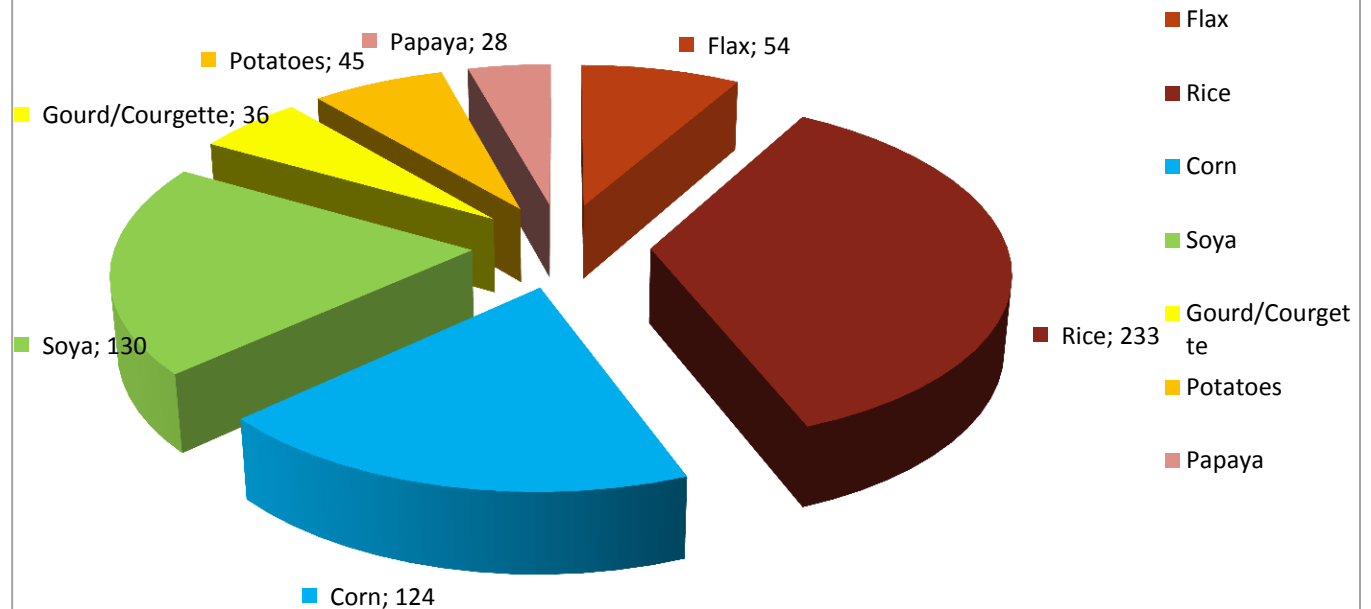
Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

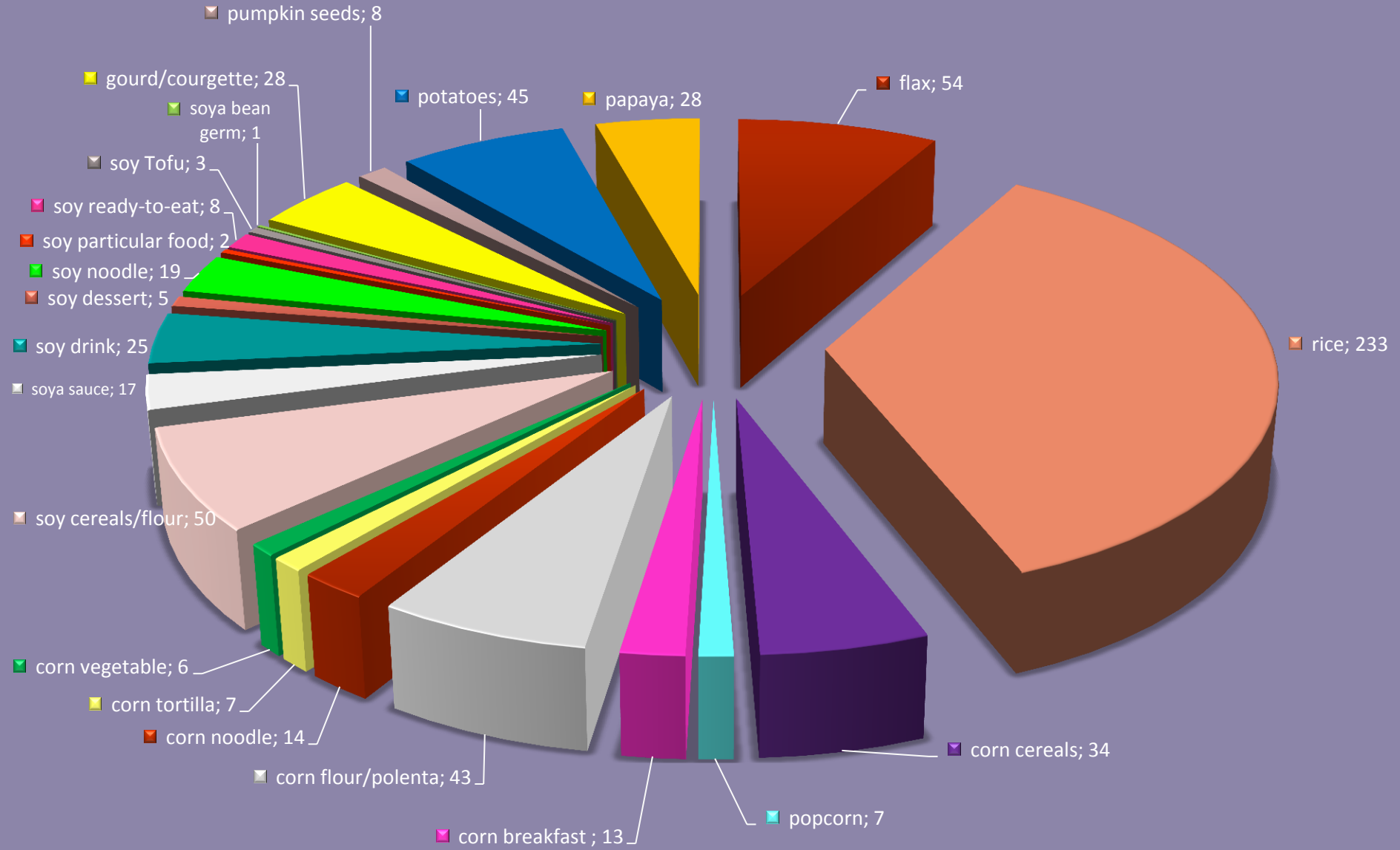
Issues arising

Conclusion

Type of samples



Total







GMO-Free Label

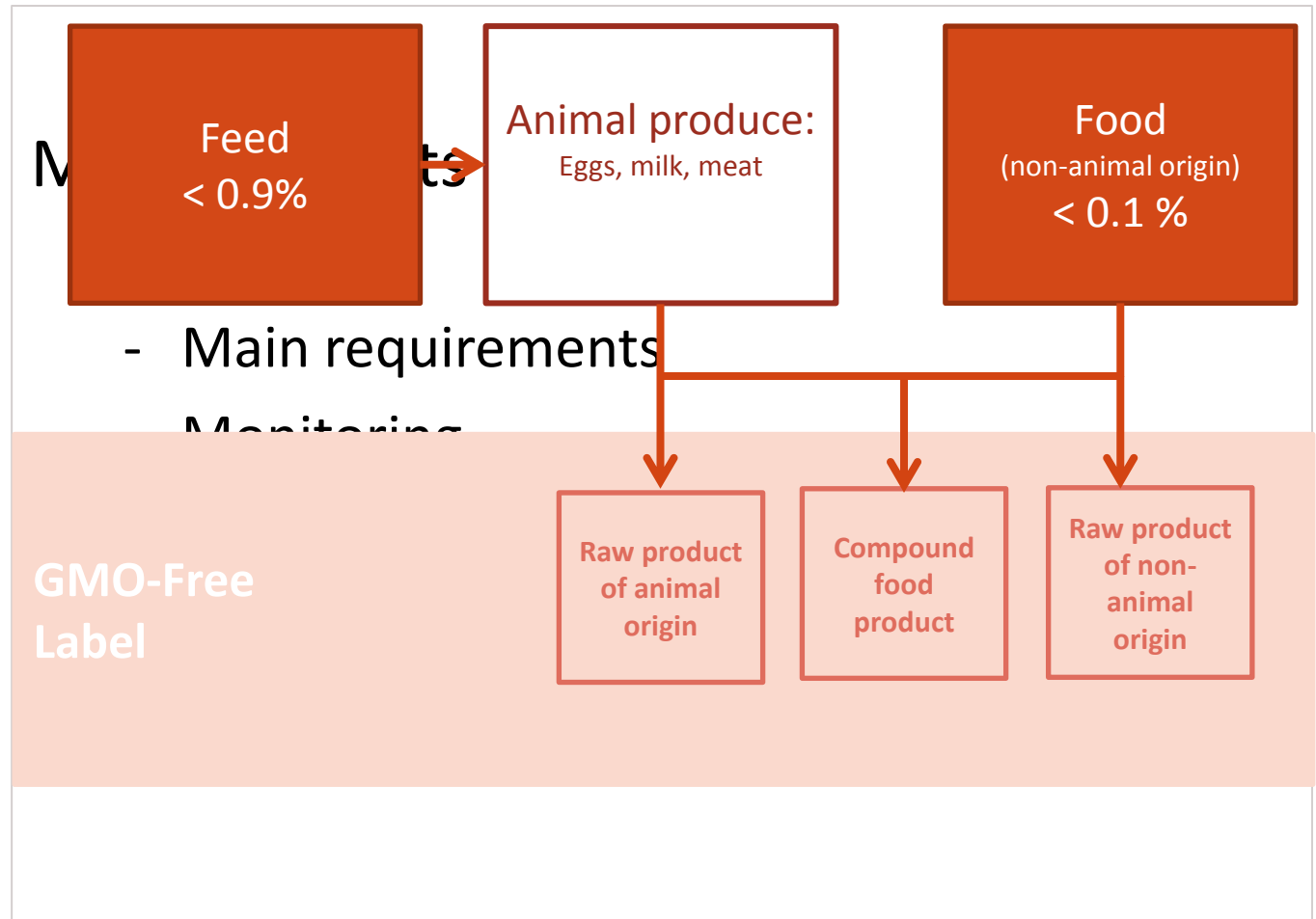
Legislative Context-EU

Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Conclusion





ISSUES ARISING

Legislative Context-EU

Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

Conclusion

- Arising costs
 - Producers
 - Consumers
 - Controls

- Analytical feasibility
- Technical feasibility
- Other labels (organic label)
- Disadvantage for products without label
- Consumer confusion
- Country specific considerations



CONCLUSION

Legislative Context-EU

Situation in Luxembourg

GMO-Free Label

Issues arising

[Conclusion](#)

- **Political Solution**
 - GMO-free label at EU-level
 - More harmonisation
 - Less consumer confusion
- **Consumer information**
- **Government aims at promoting GMO-free initiatives with direct neighbours of the Greater Region**



Thank you for your attention

Contact Details

Email: sarah.haunert@ms.etat.lu

Tel.: +352 247-75634