

# ***Regulators building public trust***

## **The example of CTNBio**

### ***Brazil***

Maria L. Z. Dagli / Luiz Sergio Camargo

CTNBIO, Brazil

Animal Biotech Workshop

November 2020



## What is the CTNBio?

CTNBio is a multidisciplinary collegiate body, created by the Law No. 11.105, of March 24th, 2005, whose purposes are :

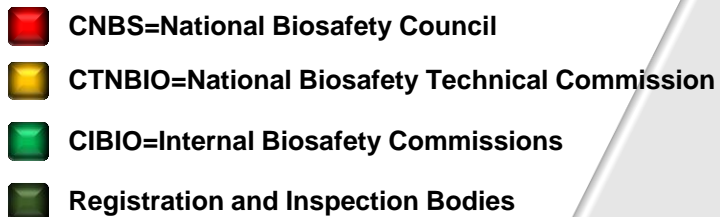
- ✓ Provides **technical advisory support** and advice to the Federal Government in the formulation, updating and implementation of the National Biosafety Policy on GMO.
- ✓ Establishes technical safety standards and technical reports **relating to the protection of human health, living organisms and the environment,** for activities involving the construction, experimentation, cultivation, handling, transporting, marketing, consumption, storage, release and disposal GMOs and derivatives.

# **Law nº 11.105, dated March 24th, 2005**

## ***“Biosafety Law”***

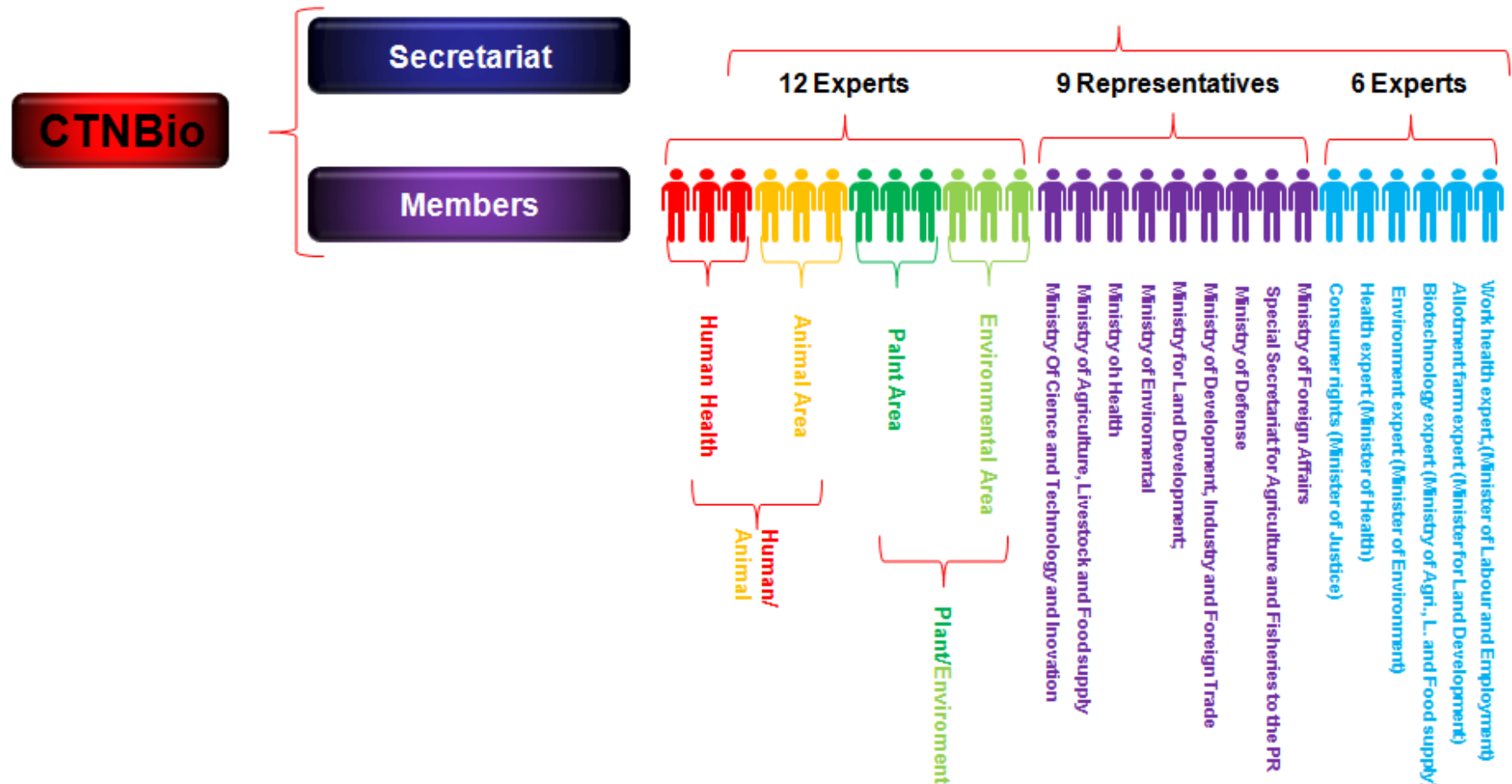
### **Purpose and Scope**

- ✓ **Protection of human, animal and plant life and environment**
- ✓ **It covers research activities and commercial use**
- ✓ **Meets monthly**
- ✓ **Case by case analysis**



# Composition of The National Biosafety Technical Commission (CTNBio)

27 Professionals with Ph.D. Degrees



Source: CTNBio (<http://www.ctnbio.gov.br/>)

# *HOW DOES CTNBIO FOSTER PUBLIC CONFIDENCE/TRUST?*

*TRANSPARENCY*

## **CTNBio: rigor and transparency on GMO biosafety assessment in Brazil**

Flavio Finardi Filho\*

Science applied to agriculture has been increasing the food offer for many years, thus reducing the need to find new farming areas. In Brazil, the truth of such statement is proven by the fact that in the past 20 years the production volume increased by over 100%, while the total growing area increased only by 25%. In the period, the Brazilian primary sector became one of the most competitive, innovative agriculture in the world. Together with other methods, biotechnology made management easier and increased productivity. Most Brazilian cotton, maize and soy is genetically modified (GM) and helps the country to strengthen its farming industry.

The transgenic safety assessments follow international standards defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO/UN), institutions that already support GM food, as many others, such as the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. In Brazil, GMOs approved are submitted to toxicological, allergenic, nutritional and environmental testing that go through the National Technical Biosafety Committee (CTNBio), group connected to the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry (MCTI).



# TRANSPARENCY OF CTNBIO

## **CTNBIO webpage**

all agendas, minutes and activities are  
available to the public



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A **CTNBio** assessora o Governo Federal nas questões relativas a **Biossegurança** de **Organismos Geneticamente Modificados**

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Conheça o processo de um OGM dentro do CTNBio

## Avisos

### INSCRIÇÕES PARA A 237ª REUNIÃO ORDINÁRIA DA CTNBIO - DEZEMBRO DE 2020

A Comissão Técnica Nacional de Biossegurança - CTNBio realizará, em caráter ordinário, sua 237ª Reunião Ordinária, no dia 03 de dezembro do corrente ano, por meio da modalidade virtual de "webconferência". Com vistas a possibilitar a participação de pessoas externas à Comissão, estamos...

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## Destaques

### EDITAL DE CONSULTA PÚBLICA Nº 2 DE 2020

O PRESIDENTE DA CTNBIO, no uso de suas atribuições legais, considerando a deliberação da Comissão Técnica Nacional de Biossegurança na 232ª Reunião Ordinária, resolve submeter a proposta...

# TRANSPARENCY OF CTNBIO

**CTNBIO monthly meetings**  
are opened to public attendance  
-registration needed-



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# TRANSPARENCY OF CTNBIO

## **Normative Resolutions of CTNBIO** **PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS** (Ex. RN 2 – RN 18)

# TRANSPARENCY OF CTNBIO

**New Products that are under evaluation  
to commercial release  
PUBLIC AUDIENCE**





Fundação Padre Anchieta é parcialmente ou totalmente financiada pelo governo do Estado de São Paulo. [Wikipedia](#)



#JTCultura  
Liberação do trigo transgênico é pauta em audiência no Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação

YouTubeBR

Pesquisar

M

Paulo Barroso

Oswaldo Vieira

Audiência Pública - Trigo Geneticamente Modificado - CTNBio

274 assistindo agora • Stream iniciado há 104 minutos

91

4

COMPARTILHAR

SALVAR

...

Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovações

33,3 mil inscritos

INSCREVER-SE

Principais mensagens

Lenilce Santos

Fora transgênico

Francisco C. Siliprandi Kuwer

"ausência de evidencia não é evidencia da ausência"

Marcelo Lima dos Santos

O alimento seguro, a saúde pública, o meio ambiente.... estamos precificando a vida! Não aos OGMs!!!

Eliane Borges

Não ao trigo transgênico.

Valério Pillar

Os argumentos da empresa interessada na liberação apenas evidenciam ausência de precaução.

Pedro Jesus

Muito bom Nodari!! Queremos Agroecologia, e não queremos venenos!!

Albanise Pfeifer Coelho

Não ao trigo transgênico!

Gabriel B Fernandes

Parabéns, professor Nodari. Viva Andrés Carrasco!

Pedro Jesus

NÃO AO TRIGO TRANSGÊNICO

Vivi

Excelente apresentação professor Nodari!

Maria Dagli

Diga algo...

0/200

OCULTAR CHAT

Próximo

REPRODUÇÃO AUTOMÁTICA

22 OUTUBRO 13 HORAS

PALESTRA

Reconhecimento Facial com Microcontroladores e...

Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia...

19 assistindo

Drought resistant wheat

16



# TRANSPARENCY OF CTNBIO

Transparency  
**regarding the scientific community**  
regular CIBIO meetings  
“ENCIBIO”

# TRANSPARENCY OF CTNBIO

Transparency

**regarding the general public**

CTNBIO presidency and members are frequently invited to talk about GMO, gene edition, new products that are released for commercialization (TV, radio, journals, etc.)

*IS TRANSPARENCY ENOUGH TO  
BUILD PUBLIC TRUST?*



Rubens Onofre Nodari



UCCSNAL

## Porque legitimar o desconhecido?

MCC movimento ciência cidadã

A sequência nucleotídica dos insertos de pelo menos 200 pb do genoma de trigo localizado em cada lado dos insertos foram utilizadas como material de partida. **Essas sequências são consideradas informação confidencial!**

67 Peptídeos putativos produzidos com > 100 pb (p.258), ausência de semelhança com alérgenos e toxinas *por análise in silico*.

Conclusão da CIBio: caso se produza a tradução dos peptídeos ... gerados no evento IND-ØØ412-7, nenhum deles seria **potencialmente tóxico** e não apresentam **relevância** do ponto de vista da biossegurança. (p.76)

Sem estudos de proteômica e metabólômica, dá para aceitar o parecer da CIBio da proponente?

### Principais mensagens

- Líliá Lima concordo com o presidente Paulo
- Claudio Reis O trigo HB4 significa agrotóxico, monocultura, propriedade intelectual... é todo um modelo de degradação socioambiental.
- Gabriel B Fernandes quem mesmo falou que era só 1 gene do girassol?
- Antonio Andrioli Todos os pedidos de liberação que a CTNBio recebeu das empresas ela aprovou. Isso é avaliação científica?
- Katia Almeida Essa audiência serve para que as instituições de pesquisa possam dar seu parecer desfavorável a esse absurdo? Ou estão aqui apenas pra legitimar o processo?
- Enisson Rocha Não a trigo transgênico
- Líliá Lima Parabéns presidente Paulo suas colocações foram muito pertinentes
- Francisco C. Siliprandi Kuwer Não existe transgênico sustentável
- Além Mateus não ao trigo transgênico

Maria Dagli  
Diga algo...

0/200

OCULTAR CHAT

Audiência Pública - Trigo Geneticamente Modificado - CTNBio

265 assistindo agora • Stream iniciado há 100 minutos



89



4



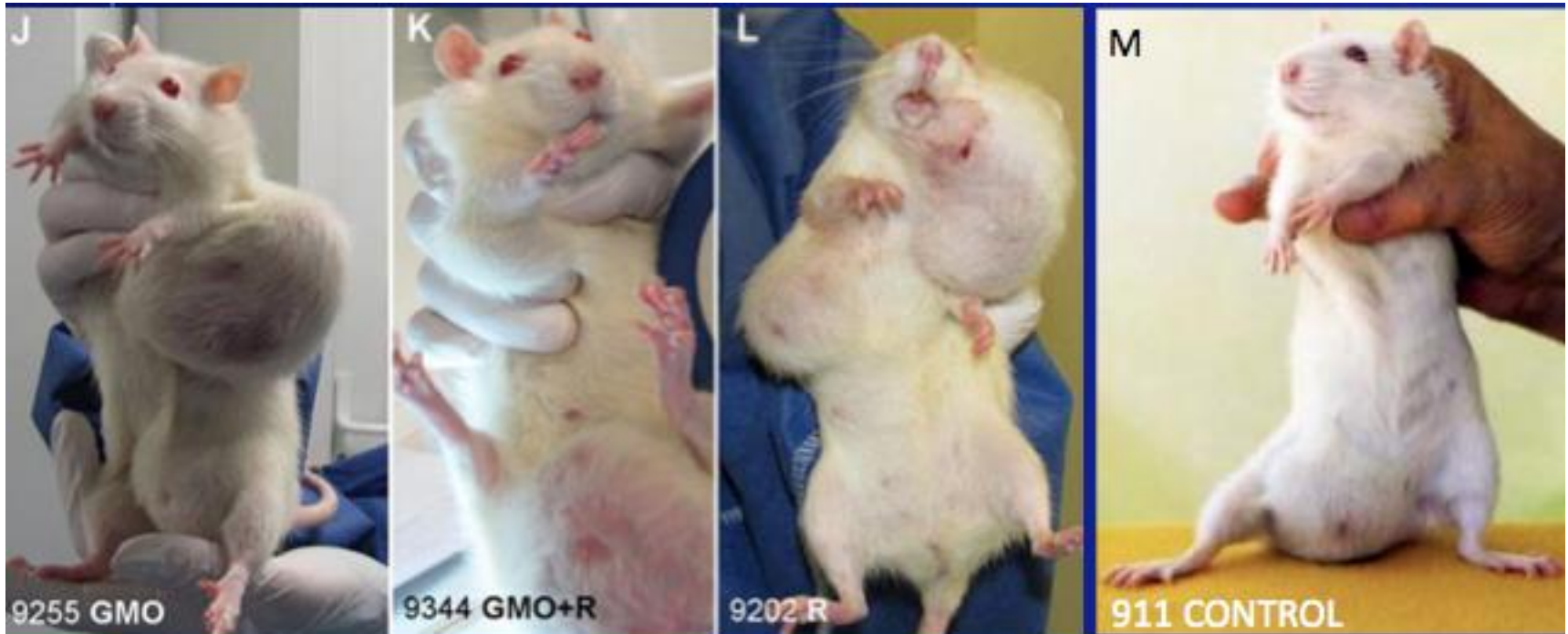
COMPARTILHAR



SALVAR



Seralini  
et al., 2012





Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

## Food and Chemical Toxicology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox)



### Long term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize

Gilles-Eric Séralini<sup>a,\*</sup>, Emilie Clair<sup>a</sup>, Robin Mesnage<sup>a</sup>, Steeve Gress<sup>a</sup>, Nicolas Deangeles<sup>a</sup>,  
Manuela Malatesta<sup>b</sup>, Didier Hennequin<sup>c</sup>, Joël Spiroux de Vendômois<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> University of Caen, Institute of Biology, CRIIGEN and Risk Pole, MRSH-CNRS, EA 2608, Esplanade de la Paix, Caen Cedex 14032, France

<sup>b</sup> University of Verona, Department of Neurological, Neuropsychological, Morphological and Motor Sciences, Verona 37134, Italy

<sup>c</sup> University of Caen, UR ABTE, EA 4651, Bd Maréchal Juin, Caen Cedex 14032, France

#### ARTICLE INFO

##### Article history:

Received 11 April 2012

Accepted 2 August 2012

Available online 19 September 2012

##### Keywords:

GMO

Roundup

NK603

Rat

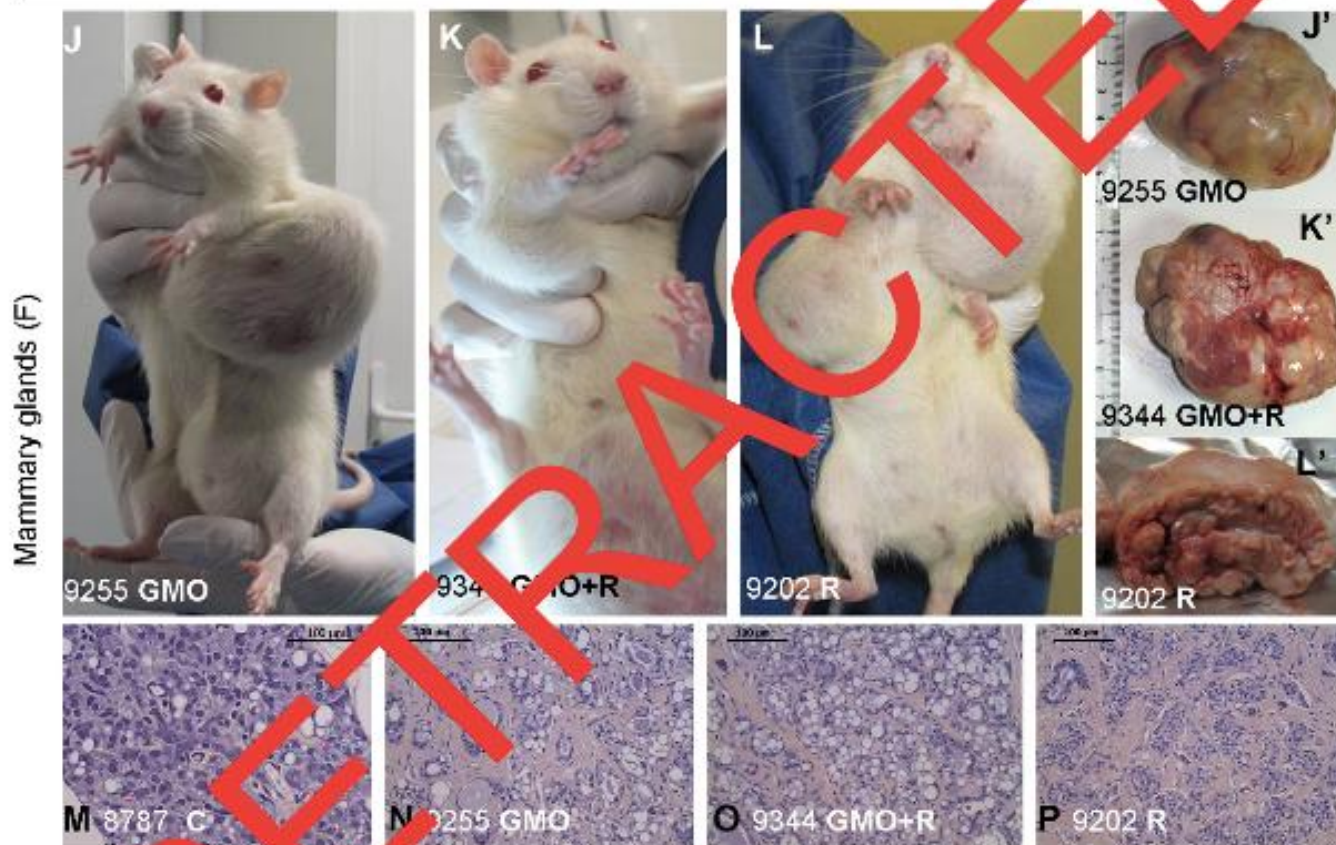
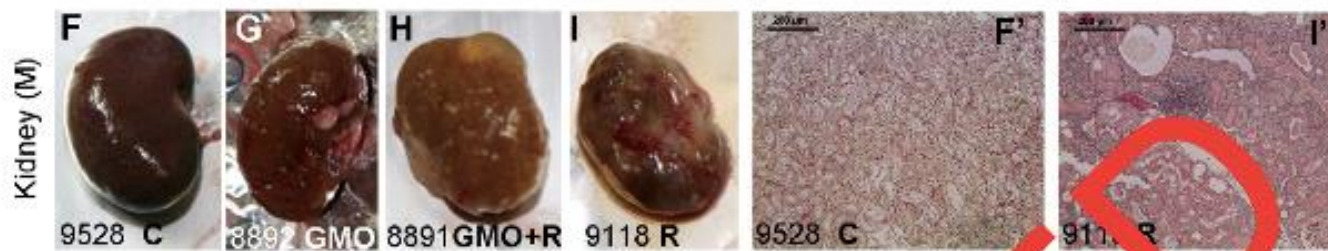
Glyphosate-based herbicides

Endocrine disrupting effects

#### ABSTRACT

The health effects of a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize (from 11% in the diet), cultivated with or without Roundup, and Roundup alone (from 0.1 ppb in water), were studied 2 years in rats. In females, all treated groups died 2–3 times more than controls, and more rapidly. This difference was visible in 3 male groups fed GMO. All results were hormone and sex dependent, and the pathological profiles were comparable. Females developed large mammary tumors almost always more often than and before controls, the pituitary was the second most disabled organ; the sex hormonal balance was modified by GMO and Roundup treatment. In treated males, liver congestions and necrosis were 2.5–5.5 times higher. This pathology was confirmed by optic and transmission electron microscopy. Marked and severe kidney nephropathies were also generally 1.3–2.3 greater. Males presented 4 times more large palpable tumors than controls which occurred up to 600 days earlier. Biochemistry data confirmed very significant kidney chronic deficiencies; for all treatments and both sexes, 76% of the altered parameters





# OPEN Transgenic *Aedes aegypti* Mosquitoes Transfer Genes into a Natural Population

Received: 11 February 2019

Accepted: 29 August 2019

Published online: 10 September 2019

Benjamin R. Evans<sup>1</sup>, Panayiota Kotsakiozi<sup>1</sup>, Andre Luis Costa-da-Silva<sup>2,3</sup>,  
Rafaella Sayuri Ioshino<sup>2,3</sup>, Luiza Garziera<sup>3</sup>, Michele C. Pedrosa<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Aldo Malavasi<sup>4</sup>,  
Jair F. Virginio<sup>4</sup>, Margareth L. Capurro<sup>2,3</sup> & Jeffrey R. Powell<sup>1</sup>

In an attempt to control the mosquito-borne diseases yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya, and Zika fevers, a strain of transgenically modified *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes containing a dominant lethal gene has been developed by a commercial company, Oxitec Ltd. If lethality is complete, releasing this strain should only reduce population size and not affect the genetics of the target populations. Approximately 450 thousand males of this strain were released each week for 27 months in Jacobina, Bahia, Brazil. We genotyped the release strain and the target Jacobina population before releases began for >21,000 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs). Genetic sampling from the target population six, 12, and 27–30 months after releases commenced provides clear evidence that portions of the transgenic strain genome have been incorporated into the target population. Evidently, rare viable hybrid offspring between the release strain and the Jacobina population are sufficiently robust to be able to reproduce in nature. The release strain was developed using a strain originally from Cuba, then outcrossed to a Mexican population. Thus, Jacobina *Ae. aegypti* are now a mix of three populations. It is unclear how this may affect disease transmission or affect other efforts to control these dangerous vectors. These results highlight the importance of having in place a genetic monitoring program during such releases to detect un-anticipated outcomes.

Mosquito-borne diseases take a tremendous toll on human health and economies especially in Third World countries. Effective vaccines and drugs are available for only a few so the major means of controlling these diseases is to control the mosquitoes that transmit them. As traditional methods of control, such as insecticides, have become less effective and acceptable, alternative methods have been sought<sup>1</sup>. Methods based on genetic manipulations are among the most appealing and actively pursued<sup>2</sup>. One such genetic-based program has involved releasing a strain of *Aedes aegypti* (Oxitec Ltd.) that carries a dominant lethal gene. If the gene is functional, the released



## Carta da Presidência da CTNBio sobre o artigo publicado na Scientific Reports referente a mosquitos transgênicos

« Back

TECHNICAL NOTE FROM CTNBio'S PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT (National Technical Commission of Biosafety) regarding the recently published article in Scientific Reports entitled: Transgenic *Aedes aegypti* Mosquitoes Transfer Genes into a Natural Population, Evans et al. Scientific Reports, Vol 9, Article number: 13047 (2019).

CTNBio is a technical and scientific Commission created by the Brazilian Biosafety Law 11.105, in March 23, 2005. The CTNBio is composed by 54 scientist bearing PhD title, and meets 10 times a year in Brasília in order to analyze, on a case by case basis, the safety of genetically modified organisms for human and animal health, plants and the environment. The process is robust and transparent, so that documents used in the analysis and all the decisions are published in CTNBio's homepage (<http://www.ctnbio.mctic.gov.br>).

CTNBio analyzes projects in contention, the planned releases in the environment and the commercial releases of GMO.

After the analysis of the article in Scientific Reports entitled: Transgenic *Aedes aegypti* Mosquitoes Transfer Genes into a Natural Population, Evans et al. Scientific Reports, Vol 9, Article number: 13047 (2019) by members of the CTNBio, population genetics specialists and technology developers from universities and companies, with the objective of controlling disease-causing vectors of high relevance to Brazilian Public Health, CTNBio raises the following considerations in relation to the above mentioned Article published in a renowned international journal in the scientific area.

1. From the methodological point of view the authors used a very robust, high performance SNPs array with number of markers and appropriate analysis, as well as gene introgression in mosquito populations;
2. The genetic background of the Oxitec's strain OX513A originated from the crossing of two other highly susceptible to insecticides strains from Cuba and Mexico, precisely to minimize its persistence in the environment. The Brazilian strains do not present high sensitivity to insecticides, due to the long-term use of chemical agents to control the mosquito that transmits diseases of high relevance to the Public Health;

We are hereby contacting the Editors of the Scientific Reports journal to clarify the rigorous criteria used by CTNBio, based on scientific data and experiments, which guide all the technical/scientific decisions made by this Biosafety Committee in Brazil.

Finally, it is important to highlight that all experimental work and commercial use of this technology, which is on the frontier of knowledge in Brazil and in the world and, implies in risks and uncertainties is under a permanent analysis and surveillance by CTNBio with total transparency with the facts. This is what CTNBio has always done and will continue to do in order to make its decisions.

Sincerely,

**Maria Sueli Felipe**  
CTNBio President

**Maria Lucia Zaidan Dagli**  
CTNBio Vice President

OPEN

# Editorial Expression of Concern: Transgenic *Aedes aegypti* Mosquitoes Transfer Genes into a Natural Population

Published online: 24 March 2020

Benjamin R. Evans, Panayiota Kotsakiozi, Andre Luis Costa-da-Silva, Rafaella Sayuri Ioshino, Luiza Garziera, Michele C. Pedrosa, Aldo Malavasi, Jair F. Virginio, Margareth L. Capurro & Jeffrey R. Powell

Addendum to: *Scientific Reports* <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-49660-6>, published online 10 September 2019

The Editors are issuing an Editorial Expression of Concern for this Article.

Shortly after publication of this Article in September 2019, the Editors were alerted to concerns regarding the interpretation of the data and some of the conclusions. Specific concerns include:

- the title does not make it clear that the authors only examined genomes of specimens that lacked the transgenes and sampled during the release period;
- the Abstract and Introduction use language which is not justified given the evidence present in the peer reviewed literature and the data presented in this Article. No sampling for this study was conducted more than a few weeks after the release program, and as such there is no evidence in the Article to establish whether the non-transgenic, introgressed sequences from the released strain remained in the population over time. Furthermore, previous work from some of the authors (Reference 6 in the Article) showed that over time, the transgene is lost from the population, but the Article does not disclose this information;
- in the Discussion, the authors claim that because of the distinct genetic backgrounds of different mosquito populations (two used to create OX513A mosquitoes, and one local population), the existing population in Jakobina is more robust than the original wild population due to hybrid vigour. There are no data in the Article to support this point; furthermore, data included in the Article indicate that a number of hybrid individuals rapidly declined post-release;
- the conclusion of the Article highlighting “the importance of having in place a genetic monitoring program during such releases” could be misunderstood to mean that such program was not in place. The Mosquito release program in Jakobina is monitored by the Brazilian regulator, the National Technical Commission of Biosafety (CTNBio).

When contacted about these issues, some of the authors indicated that they had not approved the final version that was submitted for publication.

# World GMO Madness



Estes são Doutores favoráveis aos

## TRANSGÊNICOS

Eles compõem a

CTNBio



“O que vemos na prática cotidiana da CTNBio são vozes pré-concebidas e uma série de artimanhas obscurantistas no sentido de considerar as questões de biossegurança como dificuldades ao avanço da biotecnologia. A razão colocada em jogo na CTNBio é a racionalidade de mercado...”

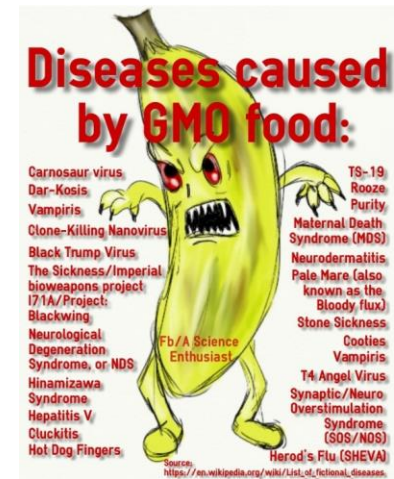
CTNBio - COMISSÃO TÉCNICA NACIONAL DE BIOSSEGURANÇA

Por um Brasil Livre de Transgênicos

Mais informações: Campanha Brasil Livre de Transgênicos

www.feab.org.br  
www.abesef.org.net

FEAB ABEP - UNE





# Estes são Doutores favoráveis aos TRANSGÊNICOS

Eles compõem a

CTNBio



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"O que vemos na prática cotidiana da CTNBio são votos pré-concebidos e uma série de artimanhas obscurantistas no sentido de considerar as questões de biossegurança como dificuldades ao avanço da biotecnologia. A razão colocada em jogo na CTNBio é a racionalidade de mercado..."

Dra. Lia Giraldo, em sua Carta de Desligamento da CTNBio (17/05/07)

CTNBIO - COMISSÃO TÉCNICA NACIONAL DE BIOSEGURANÇA



FEAB

Por um Brasil  
Livre de Transgênicos

Mais Informações "Campanha Brasil Livre de Transgênicos"

[www.feab.org.br](http://www.feab.org.br)

[www.abeeef.cjb.net](http://www.abeeef.cjb.net)



ABEEF - UNE





**TENSÃO** - Reunião da CTNBio foi acompanhada por 50 integrantes do MST; contra liberação, membros da comissão saíram em protesto













Thank you!

Questions?

**mlzdagli@usp.br**