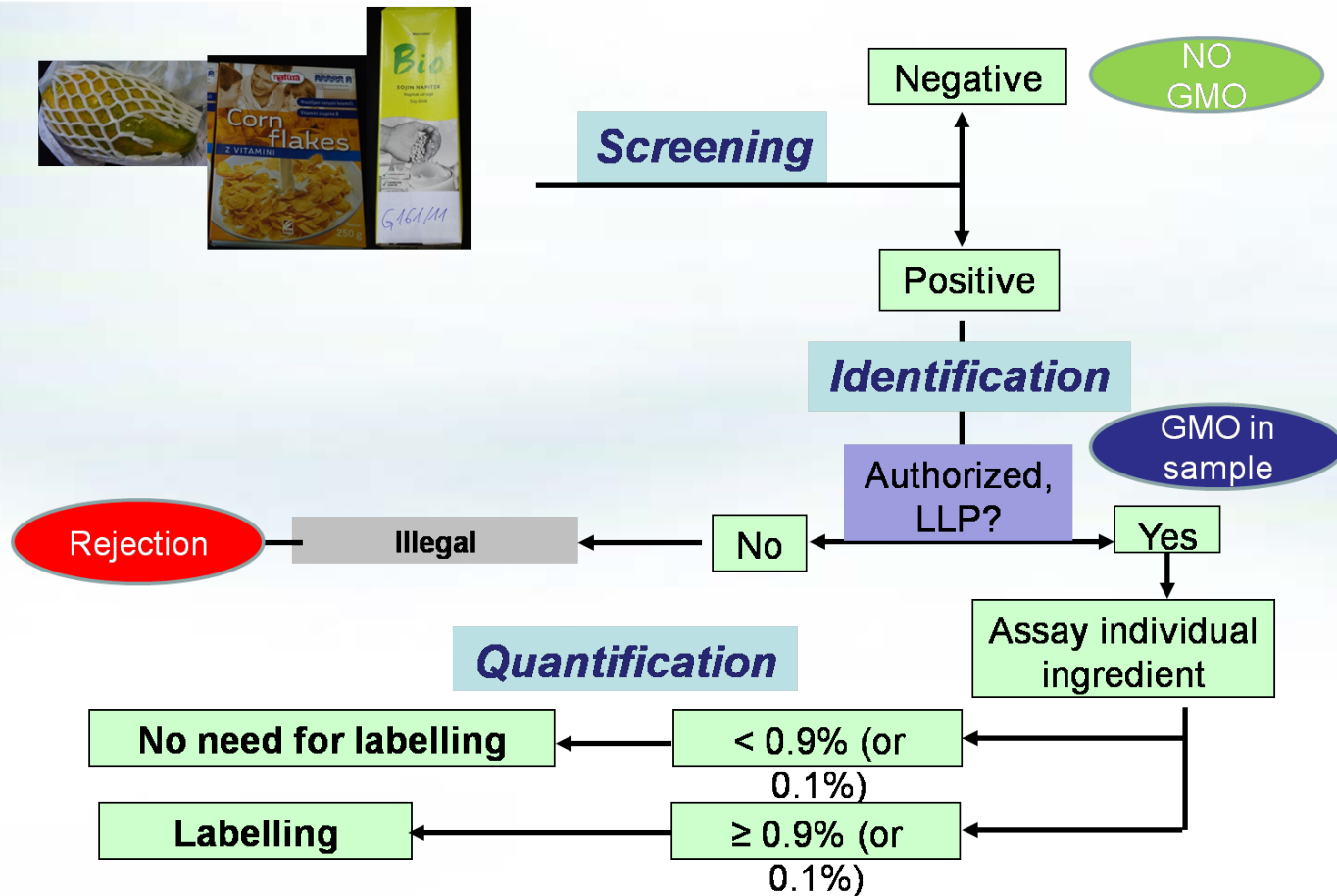


# New approaches of GMO detection and quantification

Dr. Jana Žel

## REGULAR TESTING SCHEME



# DETECTION

- Screening and qualitative aspects
- Quantitative aspects

# VALIDATION OF METHODS-EVENT SPECIFIC

- Submission and validation of GMO detection methods are an integral part of the EU regulatory approval process for GMOs *(EC) No. 1829/2003*.
- EU-RL GMFF assisted by the National Reference Laboratories.

# VALIDATION OF SCREENING METHODS

*At the 16th Meeting of the committee of competent authorities dealing with directive 2001/18/EC in Brussels on 23rd November 2009 point 6: Screening methods for GMOs it is written:*

- This item relates to a recent Nature article which documented how a well recognised method used to screen GM 1507 maize failed to perform well owing to the presence of SNPs (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) (*NIB publication*). This has implications for screening for GMO presence. A number of CAs emphasised the importance and the need to develop harmonised and validated screening methods (incorporating different markers i.e. T-nos in addition to 35S) such that it is possible to detect all GMOs including newly developed GMOs. Continual evaluation of screening methods was also deemed necessary. One CA stated that it was important to maintain flexibility of methodology so that screening could respond to rapid changes in the technology.
- COM confirmed that DG JRC has been discussing screening methods with Member States laboratories but so far DG JRC has not formally validated screening methods and has been focusing on validation of event-specific methods (since the requirement in the legislation is for the applicant to provide event-specific detection methods). The legal mandate for the validation of screening methods would need to be confirmed but COM confirmed that DG JRC can also work on the validation of screening methods. There will be continued co-ordination between the different services of the COM (namely DG Env, DG Sanco and JRC) on this issue.

# MATRIX APPROACH

	GMO	P-35s	T-nos	pat	bar	CTP2-CP4EPSPS
1	89034	1	1	0	0	0
2	176 (Bt 176) (b)	1	0	0	1	0
3	Bt11	1	1	1	0	0
4	Event 98140	1	0	0	0	0
5	GA21	0	1	0	0	0
6	MIR604	0	1	0	0	0
7	Mon810	1	0	0	0	0
8	Mon863	1	1	0	0	0
9	NK603	1	1	0	0	1
10	T25	1	0	1	0	0
11	TC1507	1	0	1	0	0

# GMOseek matrix

- A “Matrix table” containing data on **341 GM events and 247 different genetic elements**, partially counter checked by the EU-RL, was developed within the GMOseek project. The project completed in 2011. The matrix is at this moment updated on a voluntary basis, but this update is not guaranteed to be done further.

Acceptable: <http://www.cra.wallonie.be/en/19/the-projects/296> or <http://www.gmoseek.com/>.

BLOCK, Annette, ŽEL, Jana, GRUDEN, Kristina, MORISSET, Dany. BMC bioinformatics, 2013, vol. 14, str. [1-14], 256.

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/14/256>, doi: 10.1186/1471-2105-14-256.

Microsoft Excel ribbon with tabs: Home, Insert, Page Layout, Formulas, Data, Review, View. Includes font settings (Arial, 10), alignment options, number formatting, styles (Normal 2, Normal, Bad, Good, Neutral, Calculation, Check Cell, Explanatory...), and cell editing tools (AutoSum, Fill, Clear, Sort & Filter, Find & Select).

Excel spreadsheet table with columns A-AT. Column A: Event; Column B: Unique ID; Column C: Crop; Column D: Stacked / Not Stacked; Column E: Authorized (A), Not Authorized (NA) or Low Level Presence (LLP)- EU Regulations; Column F: PROMOTERS; Columns G-AT: Various genetic elements like P-35S, P-35S/ACT8, P-2x-OCS, etc. The table contains numerous rows of event data.



# EUginius GMO database

- <http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/project/EUginius-GMO-database.htm>
- Aim is to develop the European GMO EUginius database. This database contributes to the enforcement of EU legislation on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).
- The focus is on worldwide non-authorized GMOs that are not yet safe for humans, animals and the environment. The database is designed as a user-friendly, web-based European database. EUginius has links to the related Chinese initiative GMDD and is complementary to European initiatives such as the database of the EC-JRC in Ispra.
- The EUginius database is completed mid 2012 and accessible via the Internet. Confidential information is protected through login-construction and will be visible only to authorized users.

# INFORMATION ON DATA

- International cooperation

# SCREENING PHASE - coverage

- PENTAPLEX (P-35s,T-nos, pat, bar, CTP2-CP4EPSPS)
- **five GMevents are not targeted** from all EU approved ones, including LLP (3 soybeans (2 of them LLP), 1 maize (LLP), 1 cotton).
- Therefore we need to test additionally this event specific ones in first phase.

# DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF NEW SCREENING METHODS

- ENGL Advisory Group Method Selection for Validation
- European Committee for Standardization (CEN), TC275/WG11 – Preparation of document for matrix approach

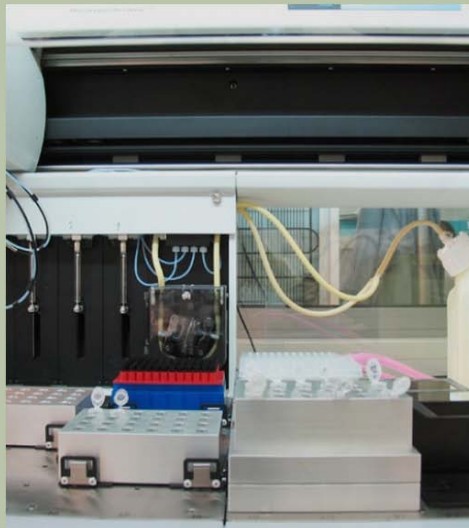
## GMOval project



**GMOval project**  
Real-time PCR screening methods



Home Project structure WPs Publications Partners GMOseek



### GMOval project general description

This project is directed towards the challenges of the increasing number of EU- approved and unauthorized (UGMs) GM events needed to be covered by detection techniques on the one hand, and increasing the time- and cost-efficiency of analytical approaches on the other hand.

The central aim of the project is to make available to the GMO laboratories community new validated real-time PCR screening methods for an improved GMO detection via the implementation of the matrix approach.

Methods were partially in-house validated and they were shown to provide a wider coverage degree in terms of number of authorized and unauthorized GM events. Some of the methods, called multiplex methods additionally decrease the time and cost of analysis.

The methods will be validated in collaborative trials to assess their performance and their practicability for use in GMO detection. The validations will be conducted mainly according to the guidelines defined during the GMOseek project.

The project is financially supported by the UK [Food Standards Agency](#) (contract FS244027).  
[read more >](#)



<http://www.gmoval.com/>

Detection and identification of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

# GMOval project (cont. of GMOseek)

## New screening methods - validation

- bar/pat TaqMan® duplex,
- the tE9 TaqMan® qPCR and a corresponding TaqMan® assay for pea (to control the presence of the natural donor organism of the tE9 terminator),
- the SYBR®Green Cry3Bb qPCR assay
- Financed by: Food Standards Agency (NIB heading).

# TOOLS TO HELP IN GM ANALYSES

# GMOseek SOFTWARE

- Matrixes are too complex to be handled manually.
- Therefore development of software.
- Publicly available: <http://www.gmoseek.com/>.
- Cooperation of NIB and IJS - Morisset D., Kralj Novak P., Zupanič D., Gruden K., Lavrač N., Žel J. (2013). GMOseek: a user friendly tool for optimized GMO testing. (in preparation)
- Financed by: Food Standard Agency (FSA, UK) and the Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL, Germany) within the European excellence in food safety research programming, SAFEFOODERA.

The logo for GMOseek, featuring the text "GMOseek" in a light grey, sans-serif font with a slight shadow effect.The logo for SAFEFOODERA, featuring the text "SAFEFOODERA" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is stylized with a green leaf-like shape on top.



# GMOseek SOFTWARE

Matrix used by GMOseek software

- Excell table in .tab format
- Adaptable to each laboratory needs

# GMOseek SOFTWARE

Different purposes:

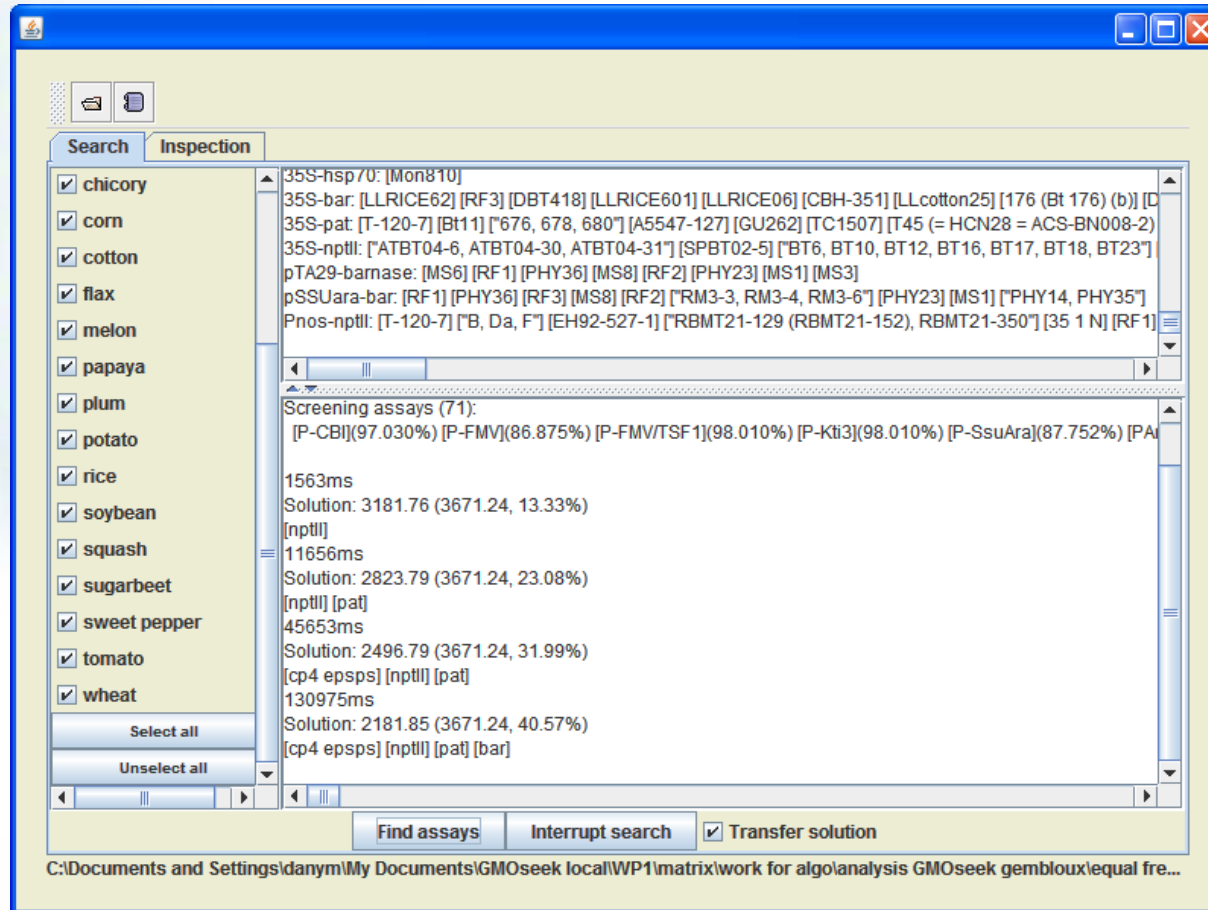
- Proposal of smart selection of screening elements to be used on samples to have as high coverage as possible
  - Highest GMO coverage
  - Cost efficient GMO detection
  - Discovery of new useful methods

# GMOseek SOFTWARE

## Different purposes:

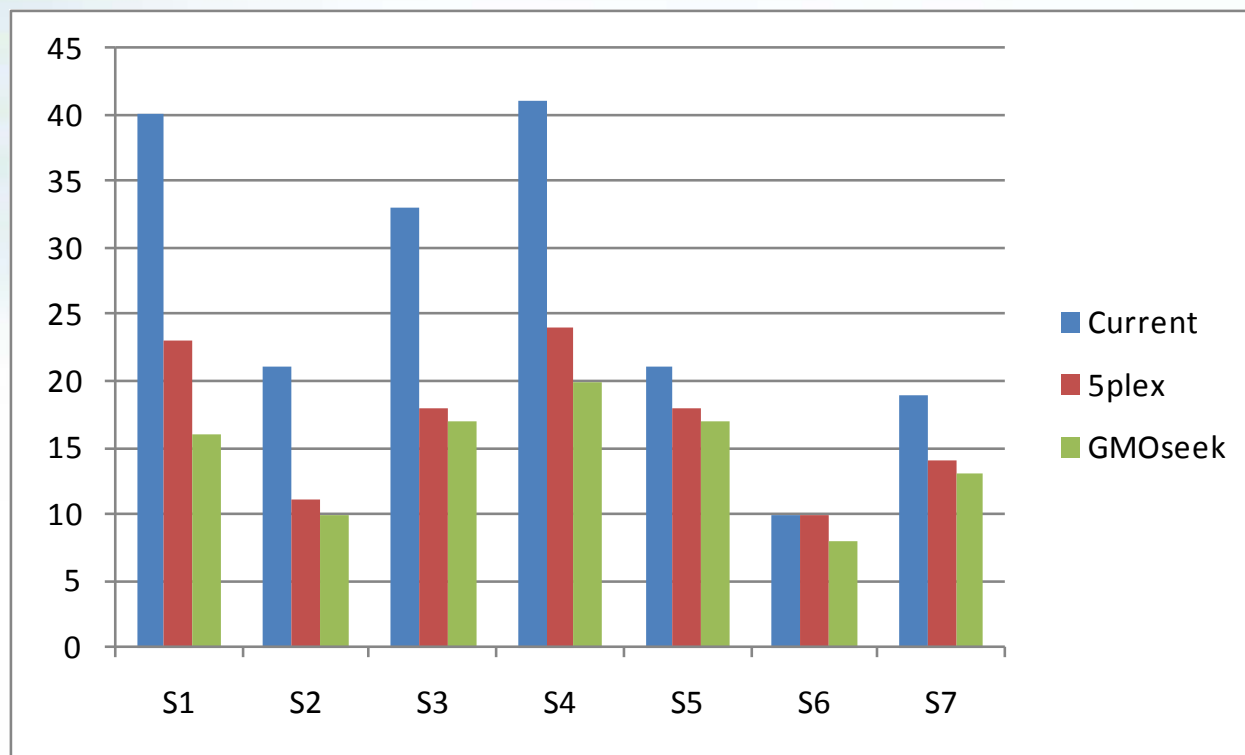
- Decision support system for daily use in labs (NIB already uses it daily). Help to decide which GMOs to test after screening phase

## Smart selection of screening elements



## Comparison of different screening elements used

Number of screening analyses needed



## Decision support

Screening results introduced

GMOs proposed to be tested

Green – not present  
Red – can be present

Check consistency

C:\Documents and Settings\danyml\My Documents\GMOseek local\WP1\matrix\work for algo\analysis GMOseek gembloux\GMOseek consensus for algo\_EU.tab

## Decision support

Results of GMOs identified introduced

pat suggests a positive GM but the events-specific tests contradicts this!  
Potential stacked GM!  
Corn: [MON89034] [MON810] [MON863]

**Inconsistencies indicated,  
also possible stacks**

Check consistency

O:\PROJEKTI\Projekti\2008\_GMOseek\WP1\matrix\work for algo\Matrix\_20110930\_correctedDM.tab

# GENEIO – in plan to be used in NIB for GMO analyses



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*GENEIO® Diagnostics will take care of the qPCR experiment setup and data analyses*

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**TRACEABILITY** • enables traceability of all user activity and protocol versioning  
**CENTRALIZED** • all data is safely stored in one place

Complete qPCR Workflow in 40% less time!



[www.biosistemika.com/geneio](http://www.biosistemika.com/geneio)





# PLATR - in plan to be used in NIB for GMO analyses

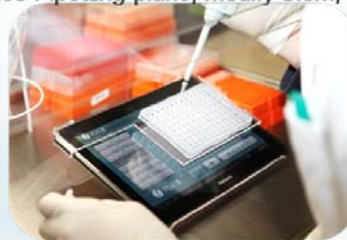


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# NEW MOLECULAR TECHNOLOGIES

- Digital PCR
- New generation sequencing
- Isothermal methods (e.g. LAMP)
  
- DECATHLON 7FPproject – expected start 2014

# ENGL ACTIVE WG

- Working group on Detection, Interpretation and Reporting on the presence of authorised versus unauthorised genetically modified materials.
- WG Method Performance Requirements
- Working Group Sample Preparation Procedure
- Advisory Group Method Selection for Validation
- WG for identification of stacked GM events

NIB member of all WG

# NIB SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

## 2013 (GMOs)

- BLOCK, Annette, ŽEL, Jana, GRUDEN, Kristina, MORISSET, Dany. The GMOseek matrix : a decision support tool for optimizing the detection of genetically modified plants. BMC bioinformatics, 2013, vol. 14, str. [1-14], 256. <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/14/256>, doi: 10.1186/1471-2105-14-256.
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- GRUDEN, Kristina, BUH GAŠPARIČ, Meti, CANKAR, Katarina, MORISSET, Dany, ŽEL, Jana. Reliability and cost of GMO detection. V: BERTHEAU, Yves (ur.). Genetically modified and non-genetically modified food supply chains : co-existence and traceability. Chichester: Blackwell, cop. 2013, str. 307-332. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9781118373781.ch18>, doi: 10.1002/9781118373781.ch18. [COBISS.SI-ID 2675023]
- HOLST-JENSEN, Arne, BOHANEK, Marko, GRUDEN, Kristina, MORISSET, Dany, ŽEL, Jana, ŽNIDARŠIČ, Martin. Towards detection of unknown GMOs. V: BERTHEAU, Yves (ur.). Genetically modified and non-genetically modified food supply chains : co-existence and traceability. Chichester: Blackwell, cop. 2013, str. 367-382. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9781118373781.ch20>, doi: 10.1002/9781118373781.ch20. [COBISS.SI-ID 2676047]
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# NIB SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

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- VAN DEN BULCKE, Marc, CANKAR, Katarina, GRUDEN, Kristina. The modular approach in GMO quality control and enforcement support systems. V: BERTHEAU, Yves (ur.). Genetically modified and non-genetically modified food supply chains : co-existence and traceability. Chichester: Blackwell, cop. 2013, str. 293-306.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9781118373781.ch17>, doi: 10.1002/9781118373781.ch17. [COBISS.SI-ID 2674767]
- PLA, Maria, COLL RIUS, Anna, DOBNIK, David, GRUDEN, Kristina, MORISSET, Dany. New multiplexing tools for reliable GMO detection. V: BERTHEAU, Yves (ur.). Genetically modified and non-genetically modified food supply chains : co-existence and traceability. Chichester: Blackwell, cop. 2013, str. 333-366.  
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- BOHANEC, Marko, GRUDEN, Kristina, ŽNIDARŠIČ, Martin. The Co-Extra decision support system : a model-based integration of project results. V: BERTHEAU, Yves (ur.). Genetically modified and non-genetically modified food supply chains : co-existence and traceability. Chichester: Blackwell, cop. 2013, str. 459-489.  
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doi:10.1038/srep02839