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Monitoring the Occurrence of Genetically Modified Maize at a Grain Receiving Port in Iran

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to detect the presence of genetically modified maize in imported into Iran using molecular approaches. Five samples of imported maize from Argentina in the second half of 2010 were obtained from Bandar Imam Khomeini custom. Using specific primers for *CaMV 35S* promoter and *nos* terminator, PCR was performed. In this study *Invertase* gene of maize was used as internal control. The results showed that maize samples imported from Argentina were genetically modified and they have regulatory regions of *CaMV 35S* and *nos* in their genome. The shipment was not labled and there was no indication in the accompanying documents that the shipment "may contain living modified organisms".

Key Words

Biosafety, Cartagena Biosafety Protocol, Maize, Transgenic Plants, Imports

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