

Anti-GMO Activities in Korea and Native Seed Protection Campaign

KIM Mi-kyung

Chairperson of Executive Committee,

Korea Anti-GMO Network

Director General, Korean Women Peasant Association



Current Status of GM Food



- Import Approved (as of 2012)
 - GMO for food: 7 crops in 81 cases
 - Bean (9), Corn (45), Cotton (15), Rapeseed (6), Potato (4), Alfalfa (1), Sugar Beet (1)
 - GMO for feed: 5 crops in 85 cases
 - Bean (13), Corn (46), Cotton (17), Rapeseed (8),
 Alfalfa (1)



Current Status of GM Food



- Amount of GMO Import by Use (2008~2012)
 - Year 2012: 1.92 mil tons for food (24%), 7.84 mil tons for feed (76%)





GMO for Research



- GMO Import for Research by Institution (2008~2012)
 - Major Importer (2012): private companies (47%), Universities (39%)

Category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
	reported	reported	reported	reported	reported	reported
Hospital	26	25	3	3	-	57
University	960	170	183	140	378	1831
National Institution, Research Center	130	15	18	65	26	254
Private Comp any, Etc.	147	19	12	20	50	248
Total	1,263	229	216	228	454	2,390

Source: LMO, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning, RDA, CDC, NFRDI, NIER

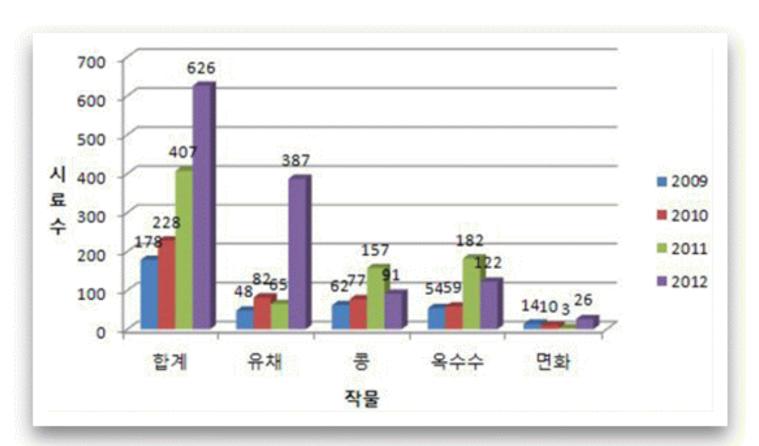
- GMO-related Research Centers (as of 2012)
 - Registered research centers in Korea: 2,390 centers, the number increasing
 - University (77%), Research Center (11%), Private Company (10%)4



Unapproved GMO Growth



- GMO-suspected Samples by Crop (2009~2012)
 - Year 2012: monitored in 1,039 places of 687 regions





Unapproved GMO Growth



- GMO Found by Region (2009~2012)
 - For past 4 years :22 regions
 - Pyeongtaek (10), Wonju (6), Cheonan (6), Hoengseong (3)
- GMO found more than twice in 6 regions (same dong or ri)





GMO Labeling



Contents and Ways of GMO Labeling

	Labeling Required	Labeling Not Required
Agricultural Produce	All GMOs approved by FDA (bean, corn, rapeseed, cotton, sugar beet)	Categorized produce * unintentional mixture: less than 3%
Processed Food & Health Functional Food	 Food containing GMOs as top 5 in gredients or food with GM DNA or foreign protein left after production or processing 	 Categorized produce * unintentional mixture: less than 3% Food containing GMOs not as top 5 ingredients (excluding purified water) or food with GM DNA or foreign protein not left after production or processing soy sauce, cooking oil, sugar, alcohol, etc.

Source: Ministry of Food and Drug Safety



GMO Labeling



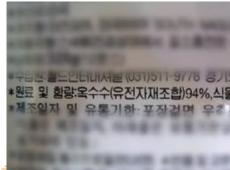
Food and Food Additives

- Labeling is required for
 - food or food additive with more than 1 GMO (import or production approved for food) used as a main ingredient for production or processing, or processed food or food additive with GM DNA or foreign protein left even after production or processing.
 - Main ingredients refer to the top 5 ingredients used for production and processing.

How to Label

Labeled in 3 ways – "Genetically Modified Food", "Containing Genetically Modified [Ingredient]", "This Product May Contain Genetically Modified [Ingredient]"









Future Plan and Challenge



- Revise GMO-related laws and guarantee the public 'right to know'
 - * Targeting 0.1% of the unintentional mixture with GMO or the EU threshold, 0.9% at maximum
 - Eliminating the top 5-ingredient limit so that all food items containing a GMO are labeled
 - Ensuring food items even without GM DNA or foreign protein left after production or processing to be labeled
- Revise relevant laws and ensure substantial management of GMO
 - Recognizing loopholes in management at home and abroad as shown in unapproved GMOs growing without recognition
 - Holding the company developing GMO responsible according to the Product Liability Act



Future Plan and Challenge



Improve GMO-related legal systems

- According to the Agricultural and Marine Products Quality Control Act and the Food Sanitation Act, the Minister of Food and Drug Safety has authorities regarding GMO labeling.
- The Acts define basic directions and core requirements and suggest specific directions to the Minister of Food and Drug Safety.

Strengthen Anti-GMO Civil Group Networks

- Multinationals and domestic food processing conglomerates developing and distributing GMOs severely oppose the efforts to improve the GMO labeling system.
- Civil groups at home and abroad need to build their capacities and expand their networks for improvement of relevant legal systems.
- The UNCBD COP 12 to be held in Gangwon in 2014 and the MOP 7 to The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will be the starting point.

Introduction of Korea Anti-GMO Network

Overview

- Launched on May 12, 2000
- 17 organizations currently working together (agricultural organizations, coops, research centers, civil groups, etc.)
- 2 Joint Representatives, Chairperson of Executive Committee, Secretary, and Auditor
- Campaigns discussed and implemented through regular meetings, representative meetings, executive committee and working-level meetings
- Financed by membership fees from organizations and campaign contributions



Goal of Korea Anti-GMO Network



Campaign Goal

- Anti-GMO movement to eradicate GMO from Earth
- Movement against life patent and biopiracy
- Movement for preservation of native seeds (preservation of biodiversity)
- Putting multinationals under surveillance for these movements
- Promotion of development of sustainable agriculture/agricultural areas and use of organic produce as an alternative to GMOs
- GMO-Free zone movement





Activities for GMO Labeling System Revision Policy debate in the National Assembly







- Activities for GMO Labeling System Revision
 - Full-page advertisement on major daily newspapers (funded by donations of 4,000 proclaimers)







- Activities for GMO Labeling System Revision
 - Online and offline signature gathering (targeting 100,000 people)







- Activities for GMO Labeling System Revision
 - Signature gathering from 80,000 people, press conference in front of the National Assembly







Denouncement on Multinationals and Anti-GMO Campaign Activities

Press conference on the day of action against Monsanto in

May







- Denouncement on Multinationals and Anti-GMO Campaign Activities
 - Installed a booth for Anti-GMO Network during Slow Food International







- Native Seed Preservation and Promotion Activities
 - Installed an exhibition booth for native seeds on the organic day





Native Seed Protection by Women Farmers



What is a native seed?

A seed that has been preserved by farmers for generations, has adapted to the climate and the earth so as to grow stably, and can be harvested and gathered.

The right to native seed lies with farmers who plant the seed. A native seed is the beginning and the end of agriculture.



Value of Native Seed & Social Contribution



Production of diverse species in small quantity for peasants, Empowerment of women farmers







Value of Native Seed & Social Contribution



Seed sovereignty with native seeds





Value of Native Seed & Social Contribution







Native Seed Farm



Women farmers in 15 places of 9 provinces have built seed farms for exhibition as part of efforts to protect native seeds.

Native seeds are planted, harvested and propagated at native seed farms.





Native Seed Farm





🛑 Jeju





Euiseong **=**





1 Woman Farmer Protecting1 Native Seed











Native Seed Field Survey





We set out in search of native seeds before they are gone or contaminated by GMOs!

We look for native seeds kept by women farmers who planted and harvested the seeds.



We travel around the country to find native seeds to be inherited, protected and developed.



Native Seed Field Survey







Preserving, selecting and planting the seeds have been done by women farmers for a long time.





Women farmers who give birth to a new life are leading the efforts to protect the seeds.



Native Seed Festival



- Native seed preservation and promotion activities
 - Native seed festival and sharing





Let's Protect Native Seeds with Stories







Let's protect native seeds together! Native seeds reflect the lives of women farmers and contains our ancestors' wisdom.



