

**Question for written answer E-007726/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Ban on genetically modified soybean Intacta

A recently published scientific paper<sup>1</sup> co-authored by Monsanto employees warns that the cultivation of the GM soybean Intacta (MON 87701 × MON 89788) could promote the spread of specific harmful pest insects. The southern armyworm, *Spodoptera eridania*, develops faster and lives longer on the GM soybean than on the non-GM isogenic line. According to the authors, this is likely to be the result of unintended effects on the plants, possibly arising from the insertion of the additional DNA. In the EU, the soybean has been approved for import and processing in food and feed. EFSA concluded that the changes in the composition of the plants are not biologically relevant. The authorisation is being challenged in court by NGOs who believe that the risk assessment carried out by EFSA on Intacta is not comprehensive.

1. Will the Commission request that EFSA reconsider its opinion on the soybean Intacta, in the light of the above scientific findings and on the basis of the highest possible scientific standards?
2. Will the Commission impose a ban on the use and import of the soybean Intacta until there is sufficient scientific research conducted on the possible risks involved in its use, in particular with regard to the unintended effects referred to as potentially existing by the above-mentioned paper?

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<sup>1</sup>

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=9360220&fileId=S0007485314000546>