

Netherlands COGEM finds negligible environmental risk from GM Soybean DBN8205

21 September 2026 | News

Assessment covers import and processing of insect-resistant, herbicide-tolerant soybean for food and feed use



The Netherlands Commission on Genetic Modification (COGEM) has concluded that the import and processing of genetically modified soybean DBN8205 poses a negligible environmental risk in the Netherlands. The assessment relates to application MA 260006_001 (GMFF-2025-37290/AP205), which seeks authorisation for the import and processing of GM soybean DBN8205 for use in food and feed.

DBN8205 has been genetically modified to express the Cry1Ac and Cry2Ab genes, which provide resistance against certain lepidopteran insect species. The soybean also carries the pat gene, which confers tolerance to herbicides containing glufosinate-ammonium. According to COGEM, the molecular characterisation of DBN8205 meets its assessment criteria, with no indications identified of potential environmental risks associated with the genetic modification.

The environmental assessment also takes into account the biology of soybean and conditions in the Netherlands. COGEM notes that feral soybean populations do not occur in the country and that hybridisation between soybean and other species is not possible in the Netherlands. The assessment found no indications that the introduced traits would provide DBN8205 with an ability to survive in the Dutch environment. Based on these considerations, COGEM considers the environmental risk associated with the import and processing of the GM soybean to be negligible.

The conclusion is limited to environmental considerations. COGEM has not provided an assessment of potential risks arising from incidental consumption of DBN8205, noting that food and feed safety assessments fall within the remit of other organisations. The assessment therefore separates two regulatory questions: whether the GM soybean could create environmental risks in the Netherlands, and whether its use in food and feed presents potential health risks. COGEM's

conclusion addresses the former, finding no indications of environmental concern under the conditions assessed.