

## Access to Relevant Technology to Test for the Adventitious Presence of GM Material in non-GM Seed

(Chicago, May 2002)

FIS has stated several times that GM enhanced varieties should be treated exactly as any other varieties once they have been approved for field release and consumption. ISF still considers that this should be the case.

However, for various reasons, some countries are demanding separation of GM and non-GM products and are fixing standards for the level of adventitious presence of GM material in non-GM products, including in seed. Seed companies have to comply with these regulations.

In order to achieve that, it is essential that seed companies have at their disposal for their internal use the necessary technology to test the seed they are producing.

Therefore, ISF fully expects that developers of GM traits that have been approved for commercialisation, and release for sale make available the necessary technology for testing the adventitious presence of those GM traits to seed companies for their internal use. Access to the technology must not jeopardize the intellectual property right of the technology owner, but non access by seed companies could threaten their continued survival.