



IRISH CATTLE AND SHEEP FARMERS' ASSOCIATION

ICSA National Office: Lyster House, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Telephone: (0502) 62120/62146 Fax: (0502) 62121 E-mail: info@icsaireland.com

NEWS RELEASE

30th May 2005

GMO MAIZE IMPORTED INTO LOUTH COMES UNDER FIRE FROM ICSA

ICSA rural development chairman John Heney has condemned the importation of over 2,500 tonnes of illegal BT 10 maize, mislabeled as a legal variety into Greenore Port in Co. Louth last Thursday. "This latest GMO importation raises very serious questions regarding EU food safety procedures," he said.

"Mindful of the fact that the US exporters send 3.5 million tonnes of corn gluten feed to Europe each year, the EU and Ireland must immediately launch an investigation into how much of this banned product has already been imported and used in foodstuffs and animal feed over the last four years. This potential disaster highlights the abject failure of current Irish and EU regulations to protect us from illegal food contaminants," he said.

"It also highlights the fact that Irish farmers can no longer trust official Department assurances on the safety of animal feed. The Irish Government must get off the fence on the GM issue and face up to its responsibilities to both food producers and consumers. It must immediately place a total ban on the importation of all transgenic food and animal feed and declare Ireland a GM free zone," he said.

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Further Information

Eddie Punch, General Secretary, 087-2303825

Jenny Young, Press and Communications Officer, 087-6785269