



Advanced Botanical Consulting & Testing, Inc.

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GMO Testing at ABC Testing Inc.

The term GMO (genetically modified organism) has recently become a more familiar term in the public market as popular health food companies have been promoting their Non-GMO products over the more common GMO products. A genetically modified organism is one that has had its genetic material (DNA) altered through genetic engineering. Within the last decade, the presence of GMOs in medical research, production of pharmaceutical drugs, and agriculture has increased. Along with the increase in GMOs, are the growing concerns over the health and environmental impacts associated with these genetically modified organisms.

In the U.S., companies are not required to indicate whether a product contains GMOs, making it harder for those who want to separate themselves from the image of GMOs to establish credibility. As consumers have shown an increased desire to know whether or not the foods they are buying contain GMOs, health food companies are taking extra steps to require that all their products sold in-store to be tested for the genes that indicate genetic modification. For instance, in 1999 Whole Foods initiated the Non-GMO Project™ and encouraged its suppliers to do the same.

We at ABC Testing are excited to announce, that over the past 3 years we have been testing compounds for GMOs with one of the most advanced Real Time-PCR instruments (Applied Biosystems 7500 Fast) and kits available. All of the transgenic events approved by the European Union (EU) are detected and ensured through the widest detection spectrum possible – including the P34S, P35S and TNOS regulatory regions. These tests have been instrumental in allowing us to detect the genetically modified material. We are pleased to say that this has been yet another step toward helping us provide valuable compound information to each of our customers.