



European Citizens' Initiative "Grow Scientific Progress: Crops Matter!"

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Abstract:

One year after the European Court of Justice decision on new plant breeding techniques (NPBTs), a group of students pursuing degrees in Life Sciences, dissatisfied with the outcome, have submitted a legislative proposal asking for an update of Directive 2001/18/EC. The proposal was submitted in the form of the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI), a unique instrument of democracy that allows European citizens to have a voice over European political issues. The objective is to urge the European Commission to act and amend the legal framework governing the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The ECI, under the name "Grow Scientific Progress: Crops Matter!" (GSP), acknowledges that the Directive, as present, is not suitable for genome editing advancements and calls for its revision in order to enable the European Union to be more progressive and a more sustainable leading force. In particular, the initiative advocates for a clear distinction between organisms obtained through new mutagenesis techniques and conventional GMOs. It further wants to facilitate the authorization procedure for organisms obtained through NPBTs that carry only natural existing traits and are indistinguishable from crops obtained through traditional breeding. Ultimately, the ECI aims at generating democratic debate around NPBTs and representing citizens who support responsible scientific progress. GSP is currently campaigning throughout the European countries to reach citizens and get their support by gathering no less than one million signatures.

Biography:

Lavinia Scudiero is bpharm (Royal Veterinary College, Italy), msc and phd (State University of Campinas, Brazil). He is chair professor of Microbiology at the Pontifi-



cal Catholic University of Paraná (Brazil) and was invited professor at the University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong, 2007) and at the Newcastle University (United Kingdom, 2017). His research interests are focused on Microbial Biotechnology and Bioprocesses. The main descriptors of his research team are "microbial biotransformation", "microbial secondary metabolites", and "bioreactor development".

Publication of speakers:

1. Greboggy, Dênis & Pereira, Ericson & de Oliveira, Tiago & Batista, Thiago & Oliveira, Sarah & Birk, Leticia & Barros, Leonardo & Jesus, Julia & Martins, Pamela & Auler, Flavia & Chaves, Maria Heloisa & Werneck, Renata & Tiboni, Fernanda & Barros, Marlene & Rosa, Edvaldo & Santos, Milena & Parolin, Salma & Carneiro, Everdan & Gama, Yesudian & Johann, Aline. (2020). Oxandrolone Use Causes Dyslipidemia in Resistance-Training Practitioners. 10.21203/rs.3.rs-50105/v1.
2. Cieslinski, Juliette & Stadler, Victoria & Ribeiro, Victoria & Kraft, Leticia & Suss, Paula & Rosa, Edvaldo & Morello, Luis & Pilonetto, Marcelo & Telles, Joao Paulo & Tuon, Felipe. (2020). Detection of microorganisms in sonicated titanium screw model after in vitro biofilm production using culture, MALDI-TOF MS and qPCR.
3. PEREIRA, Ericson & MOYSES, Samuel & Ignácio, Sérgio & MENDES, Daniel & SILVA, Diego & Carneiro, Everdan & Grégio, Ana & Rosa, Edvaldo & BETTEGA, Patrícia & Johann, Aline. (2019). Prevalence and profile of users and non-users of anabolic steroids among resistance training practitioners. BMC Public Health. 19. 10.1186/s12889-019-8004-6.

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