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9 June, 2003

RE: GENETICALLY MODIFIED (GM) INGREDIENTS

Following your recent letter on GM ingredients, I have outlined Sainsbury's position below.

As you are aware, we removed GM ingredients from our own brand foods in 1999 in response to consumer demand. This has now been extended to own brand pet foods and dietary supplements.

Our non-GM policy includes soy and maize flour and soy protein, as well as additives such as vegetable oil, emulsifiers, lecithin, etc.

2.

In addition to our extensive range of organic meat, eggs and dairy products, we also sell a range of meat derived from animals fed a non-GM diet:

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West Country Free Range Chicken Free range eggs
Tenderness Guaranteed Outdoor Reared Pork range Outdoor Reared Bacon
Traditional Beef is now non GM for the 60 day finishing period Fresh & frozen poultry

With regard to the rest of our meat range, it is important to assess the potential impact on the British farming community and the need for a sustainable source to ensure integrity of supply to our customers.

We do however have some concerns about the cost implications for our suppliers and the long-term sustainability of this policy.

3.

GM ingredients are not used in any Sainsbury's own brand food, dietary supplements and pet foods. Where space permits, we are now labelling our products: "Like all Sainsbury's own brand foods, this product does not contain any GM ingredients."

Please refer to the list above for meat and dairy products derived from animals fed a non-GM diet.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any clarification on the above information, or if you have any further queries with regards to our policy on GM.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Wilson,

Quality & Innovation Group Communications Manager