



Requirements to Sell, Manufacture or Commercialize Transgenics, Insecticides, Pesticides, Herbicides and Rodenticides

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Afridi & Angell

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ziyad Hadi
Afridi & Angell
Emirates Tower
Level 35 P.O.Box 9371
Dubai, UAE
9714.330.3900
zhadi@afриди-angell.com
www.afриди-angell.com

- 1. Is permission required from the government in order to plant, commercialize, import or export products that have been genetically modified or engineered ("GMOs")?**

Currently there are no rules or regulations governing GMOs in the UAE.

Generally the planting of GMOs is not encouraged by the UAE Government, but there is no express restriction.

The Dubai Municipality (Food Control Department) states that permission is necessary for importing, marketing and registration of GM foods. If the product is labelled 'free from genetically modified ingredients', a certificate is required from the country of origin certifying the veracity of such label.

- 2. Is local presence required in order to be considered a duly registered distributor where the GMO is going to be imported and sold?**

No. A local presence is not required. GMOs may be distributed through a local distribution agent.

3. **Which governmental authorities are involved in the determination of the regulations involving GMOs (for example, food and agriculture, environmental, health, safety)?**

Dubai Municipality (Food Control Department)
Federal UAE Ministry of Environment
Federal UAE Ministry of Health

4. **Are local performance and/or environmental safety studies required to obtain the permit to plant, commercialize, import or export GMOs, or are studies carried out in the country of origin of the GMO where it has already been certified, valid or accepted?**

There are currently no rules or regulations which require any performance or safety studies with respect to GMOs, though the Ministry of Environment has intimated that such regulations may be enacted shortly.

5. **Does the permission granted by the Government authorize the consumption of GMOs by human beings? Are there specific rules for the consumption of GMOs?**

Currently no such rules exist.

6. **Is governmental permission required for foreign companies to commercialize, import or export pesticides, insecticides, rodenticides and/or their consumables?**

Yes. Pesticides should be registered with the Ministry of Environment before their import or export. An import permit is required.

7. **Is local presence required in order to be a registered or authorized distributor where the pesticides, insecticides, rodenticides and/or their consumables are going to be imported and sold?**

No. Distribution and sale can be conducted by a local distribution agent.

8. **Which governmental authorities are involved in the determination of the environmental health and safety of pesticides, insecticides, rodenticides?**

Federal UAE Ministry of Environment.

9. **Are local performance and/or environmental safety studies required to obtain the authorization to market pesticides, plaguicides, rodenticides, insecticides, or are studies carried out in the country of origin of the products, valid or accepted?**

Yes, studies carried out in the country of origin are accepted.

10. **Is a prescription by a qualified professional required in the herbicides commercialization? If the answer is "YES", what is the professional that grants such prescription?**

For the commercialisation of all insecticides, the professional should be qualified in agriculture. The Ministry of Environment reviews the prescription from time to time.