

To: Lead Food Officers

16 May 2017

FSS/ENF/17/014

Dear Colleague,

Labeling of GM Soya Bean Oil in Catering Establishments

FSS have recently received several enquiries regarding the use of GM soybean oil in Scottish catering establishments and whether or not this needs to be communicated to customers. FSS have responded to the specific enquires and would like to take this opportunity to share the advice with all Scottish Local Authorities

Regulation EU 1829/2003 Genetically Modified Food and Feed, Section 2 Labelling, Article 12:

1. This Section shall apply to foods which are to be delivered as such to the final consumer or mass caterers in the Community and which:

(a) contain or consist of GMOs; or

(b) are produced from or contain ingredients produced from GMOs.

Article 13 of Regulation EU 1829/2003 then gives the specific requirements for labelling. In this instance, the section of importance is section (e) – “where the food is offered for sale to the final consumer as non-pre-packaged food, or as pre-packaged food in small containers of which the largest surface has an area of less than 10 cm², the information required under this paragraph must be permanently and visibly displayed either on the food display or immediately next to it, or on the packaging material, in a font sufficiently large for it to be easily identified and read.”

For a business to be compliant with the regulations outlined above they would be required to highlight the use of a GM product to their customers. The EU regulations are enforced in Scotland under The Genetically Modified Food (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me, grainne.gilson@fss.scot or on 01224 288391.

Yours faithfully

Grainne Gilson
Food Standards Scotland