

**FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE RESULT OF  
DELIBERATE RELEASE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT OF  
GENETICALLY MODIFIED HIGHER PLANTS  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 10 OF DIRECTIVE 2001/18/EC**

## **1 GENERAL INFORMATION**

**1.1 European notification number:** B/RO/09/01

**1.2 Member State of notification:** Romania

**1.3 Date of consent and consent number:** n°1/07.05.2009

## **2 REPORT STATUS**

**2.1 Please indicate whether, according to Article 3 of the present Decision, the current report is:**

- the final report

~~- a post release monitoring report~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ final \_\_\_\_\_ intermediary~~

The current report is the 2013 post-release monitoring report of 2011 trial sites.

No trials were conducted in 2012 and 2013 under this permit.

The last trials under this permit were carried out in 2011.

## **3 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RELEASE**

**3.1 Scientific name of the recipient organism:** *Zea mays* L.

**3.2 Transformation event(s) (acronym(s) or vectors<sup>1</sup> used (if transformation event identity not available):** NK603

**3.3 Unique identifier, if available :** MON-ØØ6Ø3-6

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<sup>1</sup> In the case of small-scale field trials where several lines may be tested, the vectors used should be mentioned, which gives insight into the introduced traits and/or genetic elements. In the case of larger-scale trials, the number of events notified is limited to only one or a few events.

### 3.4 Please provide the following information as well as the field(s) layout:

Geographical location(s) (administrative region and, where appropriate, grid reference)	Size of the release site(s) <sup>(1)</sup> (m <sup>2</sup> )	Identity <sup>(2)</sup> and approximate number of GM higher plants per event actually released (number of seeds/plants per m <sup>2</sup> )	Duration of the release(s) (from ... (day/month/year... until... (d/m/y)
CTS Mircea Vodă (Brăila county)	- Total surface of the release (including other trials and non-GM maize): ~ 6431 m <sup>2</sup> - NK603 maize area: 114 m <sup>2</sup>	NK603 maize: 5 plants/m <sup>2</sup>	From: 24.05.2011 to: 03.11.2011
CTS Tecuci (Galați county)	- Total surface of the release (including other trials and non-GM maize): ~ 9726 m <sup>2</sup> - NK603 maize area: 86 m <sup>2</sup>	NK603 maize: ~ 7 plants/m <sup>2</sup>	From: 20.05.2011 to: 05.10.2011
CTS Dâlga (Călărași county)	- Total surface of the release (including other trials and non-GM maize): ~ 9475 m <sup>2</sup> - NK603 maize area: 114 m <sup>2</sup>	NK603 maize: 5 plants/m <sup>2</sup>	From: 19.05.2011 to: 29.09.2011
CTS Râmnicu Sărat (Buzău county)	- Total surface of the release (including other trials and non-GM maize): ~ 6357 m <sup>2</sup> - NK603 maize area: 84 m <sup>2</sup>	NK603 maize: 5 plants/m <sup>2</sup>	From: 23.05.2011 to: 27.09.2011
CTS Troianu, (Teleorman county)	- Total surface of the release (including other trials and non-GM maize): ~ 5201.5 m <sup>2</sup> - NK603 maize area: 87 m <sup>2</sup>	NK603 maize: 5 plants/m <sup>2</sup>	From: 16.05.2011 to: 11.11.2011
SCDA - Lovrin (Timiș county)	- Total surface of the release (including other GM maize and non-GM maize): ~ 11100 m <sup>2</sup> - NK603 maize area: 420 m <sup>2</sup>	NK603 maize: 5 plants/m <sup>2</sup>	From: 20.05.2011 to: 26.09.2011
SCDA - Caracal	-	-	-
USAMVB Timișoara	-	-	-

<sup>(1)</sup> Specify the size of the GM area and, where appropriate, the size of the non-GM area (e.g. non-GM border)

<sup>(2)</sup> Vectors used

See the trial layouts in Annex 1.

#### 4 ANY KIND OF PRODUCT THAT THE NOTIFIER INTENDS TO NOTIFY AT A LATER STAGE

4.1 Does the notifier intend to notify the released transformation event(s) as product(s) for placing on the market under Community legislation(s) at a later stage ?

- YES       NO (notified by another company)       Unknown to date

If yes, indicate the country(ies) of notification:

If yes, specify for which use(s):

- Import
- Cultivation (eg ; seed/planting material production)
- Food
- Feed
- Pharmaceutical use (or processing for pharmaceutical use)
- Processing for
  - Food use
  - Feed use
  - Industrial use
- Others (specify) :

#### 5 TYPE(S) OF DELIBERATE RELEASE(S)

Please select the main type(s) (in boxes) as well as subtype(s) of the release(s). In the case of multi-sites, multi-events and/or multi-annual release(s), please provide a general overview of the type(s) of deliberate release(s) which has/have been carried out for the full duration of the consent. Please tick the appropriate type(s):

**5.1 Deliberate release(s) for research purposes**

**5.2 Deliberate release(s) for development purposes**

- Event screening
- Proof of concept <sup>2</sup>
- Agronomic performances (e.g. efficiency/selectivity of plant protection product, yield capacity, germination capacity, crop establishment, plant vigour, plant height, susceptibility to climatic factors/diseases) (specify)
- Altered agronomic properties (e.g. disease/pest/drought/frost-resistance) (specify)
- Altered qualitative properties (prolonged shelf-life, enhanced nutritional value, modified composition) (specify)
- Stability of the expression
- Multiplication of lines

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<sup>2</sup> For example, testing the new trait under environmental conditions.

- Hybrid vigour study
- Molecular farming<sup>3</sup>
- Phyto-remediation
- Others : (specify)

**5.3 Official testing**

- Variety registration on a national variety catalogue
  - DUS (=Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability)
  - VCU (=Value of Cultivation and Use)
- Others : (specify) : .....

**5.4 Herbicide authorization**

**5.5 Deliberate release(s) for demonstration purposes**

**5.6 Seeds multiplication**

**5.7 Deliberate release(s) for biosafety/risk assessment research**

- Vertical gene transfer studies
  - Out-crossing with conventional crops
  - Out-crossing with wild relatives
- Horizontal gene transfer studies (gene transfer to micro-organisms)
- Management of volunteers
- Potential changes in persistence or dispersal
- Potential invasiveness
- Potential effects on target organisms
- Potential effects on non-target organisms
- Observation of resistant relatives
- Observation of resistant insects
- Others : (describe) .....

**5.8 Other(s) type(s) of deliberate release(s) :**

(Describe) : .....

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<sup>3</sup> « Molecular farming » means the production of substances (for instance, proteins, pharmaceuticals) by plants, which have been genetically modified for a particular trait. “Molecular farming” could be defined as well as the production of plant-synthesized pharmaceuticals, plant-made pharmaceuticals, plant-based proteins production,

## 6 METHOD(S), RESULT(S) OF THE RELEASE, MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING MEASURE(S) IN RESPECT OF ANY RISK TO HUMAN HEALTH OR THE ENVIRONMENT

### 6.1 Risk management measure(s)

*Please report the risk-management measures, which have been used to avoid or minimize the spread of the GMO(s) outside the site(s) of release, and in particular those measures:*

- *Which were not originally notified in the application,*
- *Which were applied in addition to the conditions in the consent,*
- *Which the consent required only under certain conditions (e.g. dry periods, flooding),*
- *For which the consent allowed the notifier a choice among different measures.*

*Tick the examples where appropriate:*

#### 6.1.1 Before the sowing/planting:

- Clear labelling of the GM seeds (distinct from other seeds/tubers/ ) (describe)
  - Transgenic seed for each plot were packed in sealed and separate small packets, or bags in the case of SCDA Lovrin, clearly labelled as containing GMO.
  - The transgenic seed packets or bags were accompanied by a document indicating the name of the transgenic maize, the unique identifier code and the mention "contains genetically modified organism".
- Segregation during the processing and transport of the seed/planting material (describe the method involved; provide example(s) of containment to prevent spillage during the processing and transport)
  - Seeds were received in separate packets or bags placed in sealed plastic bags and solid cardboard boxes.
  - Transport of the seed to the field was done on the planting day, in the original packets, or bags, and boxes in which the seeds were received. No processing of the seed was done before planting.
- Destruction of superfluous seeds/planting material (describe the method involved)
  - At CTS Dâlga and CTS Mircea Vodă, the remaining seeds and empty packets were carefully collected and destroyed by burying them deeply into the soil at the sites of release, following recommendations of inspectors of local competent authorities. At CTS Troianu, Tecuci and Râmnicu Sărat, all the seeds were planted and the empty packets were destroyed by burning or by deep burying. At SCDA Lovrin, the remaining seeds were packed in accordance with the permit requirements and returned to the notifier.
- Temporal isolation (specify)
- Rotation (specify the previous crop)
- Other(s): (specify)
  - The isolation distance to other maize crop was verified to be in accordance with the permit conditions (at least 200 m). At all locations, the fields were permanently guarded in order to prevent the access of unauthorized persons.

#### 6.1.2 During the sowing/planting activities:

- Method of sowing/planting (describe)

- Seeds were planted manually at all official Testing centres excepting at CTS Troianu and SCDA Lovrin, where they were planted with an experimental planter.
- Emptying and cleaning of the sowing machinery on the field of release.
  - The manual or experimental planters were carefully examined after planting and cleaned at the sites of the release.
- Segregation during the sowing (provide example of containment to prevent spillage during the sowing/planting).
  - The seed were in small paper packets, or bags, which were opened just as needed for each plot planting. The remaining seeds, if any, and empty packets were carefully collected and destroyed by burying them deeply into the soil or by burning them. At SCDA Lovrin, remaining seeds were carefully collected and returned to the notifier. No seed mixture or spillage was observed.
- Other(s): (specify)
  - Inspectors from Directions for Agriculture and Rural development and local agencies for Environmental Guard attended the planting at CTS Dâlga, CTS Râmnicu Sărat and SCDA Lovrin, and wrote a report certifying that appropriate procedures have been used for correct field planting.

#### 6.1.3 During the period of release:

- Isolation distance (x meters)
  - From sexually compatible commercial plant species
    - An isolation distance of at least 200 m was kept from any other maize crops.
  - From sexually compatible wild relatives
    - Not applicable, maize has not any sexually compatible relatives in Europe.
- Border rows (with the same crop or a different one, with a non-transgenic crop, x meters)
  - At least 8 border rows of non-genetically modified maize of a similar maturity surrounded the trials. At the end of the release, these border rows were destroyed like the rest of the plants in the trials.
- Cage/net/fence/signpost (specify):
- Pollen trap (specify):
  - At least 8 border rows of non-genetically modified maize were planted around the trials to create a pollen trap. At the end of the release, these non-GM rows were destroyed like the rest of the trials.
- Removal of GM inflorescences before flowering (indicate the frequency of removal)
- Removal of bolters/relatives/hybrid partners (indicate the frequency of the removal, x meters around the GM field)
- Other(s): (specify)
  - Inspectors from Directions for Agriculture and Rural development and local agencies for Environmental Guard visited the trials in the official Testing centers of CTS Mircea Vodă, Troianu and Tecuci during the release.

#### 6.1.4 At the end of the release :

- Harvest/destruction methods (of crop or part of it) / other means (e.g.: sampling) (describe)
  - At CTS Dâlga, Troianu and Râmnicu Sărat, the experimental plots were harvested with an experimental combine. At CTS Tecuci and Mircea Vodă, the harvest was

done manually. After weighting and moisture determinations, the harvested grains were spread on the sites of release and incorporated into the soil by disking and deep plough.

- All the remaining plant material, including border rows, was chopped and incorporated into the soil by disking and deep plough.
  - At SCDA Lovrin, the plant material was not harvested. All the plant material, including GM plants, conventional checks and border rows, was destroyed by chopping and incorporation into the soil by a deep ploughing.
- Harvest / destruction before the ripeness of the seeds
  - Effective removal of plant parts
  - Segregated storage and transport of crop/waste (provide examples of containment to prevent spillage of collected seeds/crops/wastes)
  - Clean up of machinery on the release site.
    - The equipment used for harvest and destruction was carefully cleaned on the release site after utilization.
  - Destination of the waste, treatment of waste/ surplus yield/plant residues (describe)
    - Waste plants were destroyed on the release site by chopping and were incorporated into the soil by ploughing.
  - Post-harvest treatment and cultivation measures on the release site (describe the method for preparing and managing the release site at the end of the release, including cultivation practices)
    - All the remaining plant material, including border rows, were chopped with a chopping machine and then incorporated into the soil by active disking (except at SCDA Lovrin) and deep ploughing.
  - Other(s): (describe):
    - Inspectors from Directions for Agriculture and Rural Development and/or local agencies for Environmental Protection and/or Environmental Guard attended the harvest and/or the trial destruction and wrote a report certifying that appropriate procedures have been used for correct field destruction.

#### 6.1.5 *Post-harvest measures:*

Please indicate which measures were taken on the release site after harvest:

Frequency of visits (average):

- The sites have been visited regularly over a two year-period following the end of the release, as required in the permit.
- Subsequent crop (specify)
    - No commercial maize crop was planted in the same trial area during the two years following the release. During the first year of post-release monitoring, winter wheat was planted at SCDA Lovrin, CTS Tecuci and Troianu. Sunflower was planted at CTS Râmnicu Sărat and Mircea Vodă. Field peas were planted at CTS Dâlga. During the second year of post-release monitoring, winter wheat was planted at CTS Dâlga, Troianu, Râmnicu Sărat and Mircea Vodă. Field peas were sown at CTS Tecuci and common vetch at Lovrin.
  - Crop rotation (specify)
    - No commercial maize crop was planted in the same trial area during the two years following the release (see subsequent crops above).
  - Fallow/no crop (specify)
  - Superficial soil work / no deep ploughing
  - False-sowing beds

- Control of volunteers (specify intervals and duration).

- The release sites have been visited over a two-year period after trial destruction.
- They have been visited every month during the whole vegetation period over the first year of post-release monitoring to control and manage the occurrence of potential volunteers, if any, with particular attention during the usual maize emergence and flowering periods. No volunteers were observed. Although probability of volunteer emergence was very low, the monitoring has continued for an additional one-year period, as required in the permit. The sites were visited every two months during the whole vegetation period over the second year of post-release monitoring. No volunteers were observed.

- Appropriate chemical treatment(s) (specify)

- Appropriate soil treatment(s) (specify)

- Other(s) (specify)

6.1.6 *Other(s) measure(s) : (describe)*

None

6.1.7 *Emergency plan(s)*

Indicate :

a) If the release proceeded as planned :

Yes, in all the locations.

~~• No (describe for which reason, e.g. vandalism, climatic conditions, ...)~~

b) If measures according to the emergency plan(s) (Article 6(2)(a)(vi) and Annex III.B of Directive 2001/18/EC) had to be taken

• No

~~• Yes (describe)~~

## 6.2 Post-release monitoring measures

Due to the fact that the current report format can be used for the final and post-release monitoring report(s), the notifier is asked to clearly make the difference between both types of report through this section 2 of Chapter 6. Please indicate whether

- **The post-release monitoring plan will start** (in the case of a final report, after the last harvest of the GM higher plants),
- **The post-release monitoring plan is on going** (in the case of an intermediary post-release monitoring report),
- **The post-release monitoring plan has been completed** (in the case of the final post-release monitoring report)
- **No post-release monitoring plan has to be fulfilled.**

The results of this monitoring are meant to confirm or invalidate earlier assumptions in the risk assessment.

According to the aforementioned cases, please indicate which monitoring measure(s) will be/are/were taken and where (on the release site/near the site (e.g. on fields edges)). Please be aware that all post-release monitoring measures taken during the whole post-release period shall be indicated here.

The post-release monitoring plan has been completed.

The destruction of the trials was made on:

- 26.09.2011 at SCDA Lovrin
- 27.09.2011 at CTS Râmnicu Sărat
- 29.09.2011 at CTS Dâlga,
- 05.10.2011 at CTS Tecuci
- 03.11.2011 at CTS Mircea Vodă
- 11.11.2011 at CTS Troianu.

The post-release monitoring plan started on these dates. Although no volunteers were found during the first year of post-release monitoring, it was continued over an additional one-year period, as required in the permit. No volunteers were observed.

Specify :

- Monitoring measures within site

Duration: 24 months from end of the release

Frequency of visits (average): every two months

- ~~Observation of resistant relatives~~
- ~~Observation of resistant insects~~
- Control of volunteers (specify intervals and duration)  
The release sites have been visited every month or every two months during the vegetative growing periods, with particular attention during the usual maize emergence and flowering periods, to control and manage the occurrence of potential volunteers, if any. No volunteers were observed.
- ~~Monitoring of gene flow (specify)~~
- ~~Appropriate chemical treatment(s) and/or soil treatment(s)~~
- Others (specify)

- Monitoring measures of adjacent areas: Not applicable

Duration

Frequency of visits (average) :

Area monitored :

- Observation of resistant relatives
- Observation of resistant insects
- Control of volunteers and/or monitoring of feral populations (specify intervals and duration)
- Monitoring of gene flow (specify)
- Appropriate chemical treatment(s) and/or soil treatment(s)
- Others (specify)

### **6.3 Plan for observation(s)/methods(s) involved**

*In this section the observation plan and the methods used to collect the effects which have to be reported under the next section (section 6.4) need to be specified. Any amendments or*

*modifications to the plan as proposed in the application and the SNIF<sup>4</sup> part B need to be specified in detail.*

*During the time between the notification and the final report submission, new scientific insights or methods may be developed which cause a change in the methods used. In particular these modifications need to be specified under this section.*

- Visual observations were made in accordance with the monitoring plan proposed in the notification.

## **6.4 Observed effect(s)**

### *6.4.1 Explanatory note*

*All results of the deliberate release(s) in respect of any risk for human health or the environment shall be stated, without prejudice to whether the results indicate that any risk is increased, reduced or remains unchanged.*

*The main objectives of the information given in this section are:*

- *To confirm or invalidate any assumption regarding the occurrence and impact of potential effect(s) of the GMO(s) which was/were identified in the environmental risk assessment,*
- *To identify effect(s) of the GMO(s) which was/were not anticipated in the environmental risk assessment.*

*The observed **effect(s)/interaction(s)** of the GMO(s)*

- *with respect to any risk to human health,*
- *with respect to any risk to the environment*

*shall be reported under this section.*

*Particular attention shall be drawn to unexpected and unintended effect(s).*

*Indications as regards the effects, that the notifier may have to report, are provided hereunder. The effects have obviously to be considered in the light of the crop, the new trait, the receiving environment as well as the conclusions of the environmental risk assessment, which is carried out on a case-by-case basis.*

*In order to structure the information and to facilitate and efficient search within the given information, the notifier shall use, as far as possible, specific keywords to fill in the text fields under Chapter 6, especially sections 6.4.2, 6.4.3 and 6.4.4. A most updated list of those specific keywords is available on the Internet at : <http://gmoinfo.jrc.it>.*

### *6.4.2 Expected effect(s)*

*This section concerns « expected effects », that is to say, potential effects which were already identified in the environmental risk assessment of the notification and could therefore be anticipated.*

*Notifiers should supply data from the deliberate release(s) which validate the assumptions made in the environmental risk assessment.*

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<sup>4</sup> Summary notification information format (=SNIF)

- The environment risk assessment has not identified any risk for the human health or the environment as a result of the deliberate release of the genetically modified NK603 maize.
- No environment problems were detected in these trials. No adverse effect was observed.

#### 6.4.3 Unexpected effect(s)<sup>5</sup>

*“Unexpected effects” refer to effects on human health or the environment which were not foreseen or identified in the environmental risk assessment of the notification. This part of the report should contain any information with regard to unexpected effects or observations relevant for the initial environmental risk assessment. In case of any observed unexpected effects or observations, this section should be as detailed as possible to allow a proper interpretation of the data.*

- No damage or any kind of negative effects on human health or the environment were observed during the release and post-release monitoring period.

#### 6.4.4 Other information

*Notifiers are encouraged to supply information, which is outside the scope of the notification but which might be relevant to the field trials in question. This may also include observations of beneficial effects.*

None

## 7 CONCLUSION

*In this chapter, the notifier should specify the conclusions drawn and the measures taken or to be taken on the basis of the results of the release with regard to further release(s) and where appropriate, make reference to any kind of product the notifier intends to notify at a later stage.*

- In the case of these deliberate releases, all the control measures were taken to avoid the spreading of pollen and grains of the genetically modified NK603 maize plants.
- No risk for the human health or the environment has been identified as a result of the deliberate release of the genetically modified NK603 maize in these trials.
- The safety and control measures applied to these trials provided optimum protection of the environment and human health.

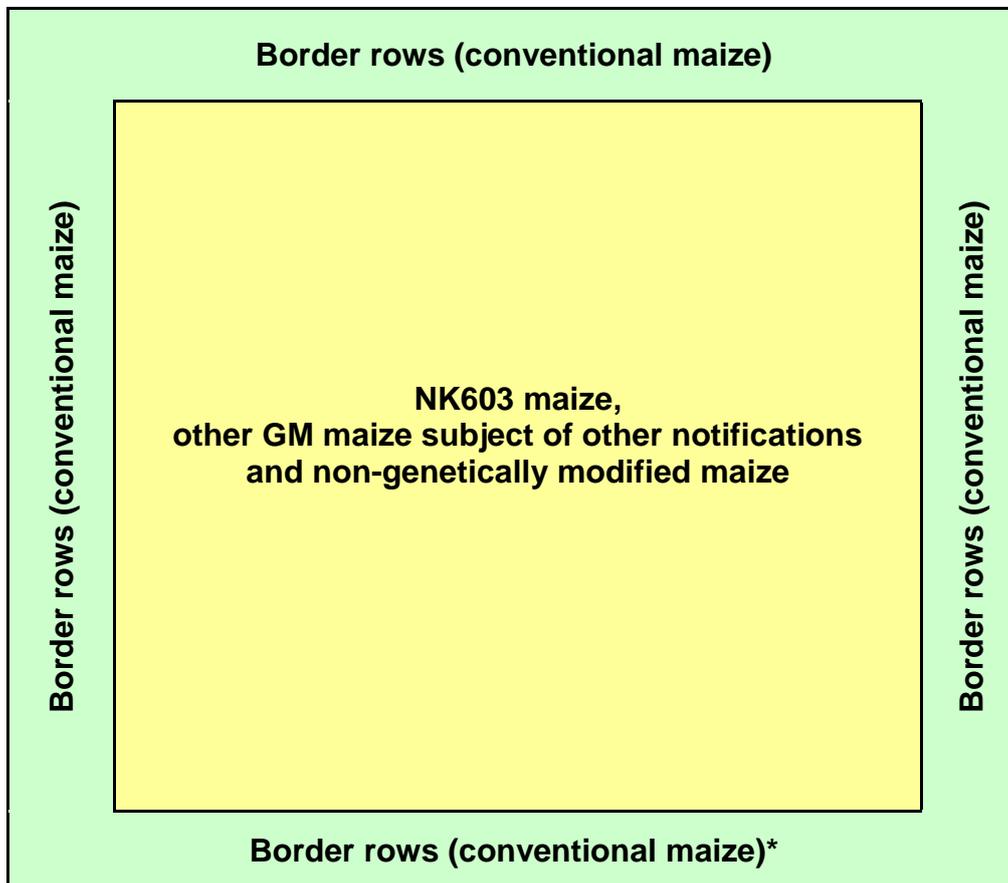
DATE : 13 December, 2013

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<sup>5</sup> Without prejudice to Article 8 of Directive 2001/18/EC as regards handling of modifications or new information.

ANNEX 1: Field Layout

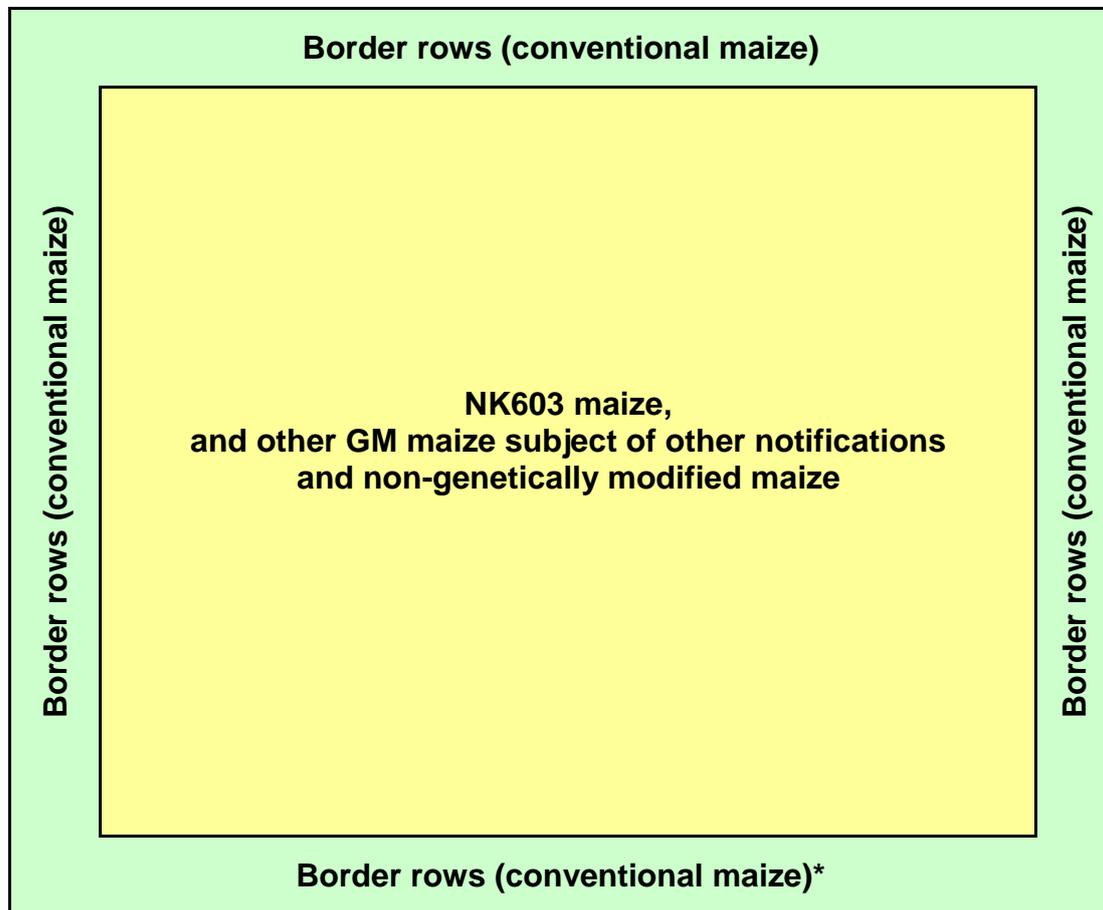
Locations: Official testing centers (CTS) of Mircea Vodă (Brăila county), Tecuci (Galați county), Dâlga (Călărași county), Râmnicu Sărat (Buzău county) and Troianu (Teleorman county)



\* at least 8 rows

ANNEX 1: Field Layout

Location: SCDA - Lovrin (Timiș county)



\* at least 12 rows