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GM ingredients in Nestlé's Baby Food

Genetically modified ingredients have been found in Nestlé's infant food in China, and MADGE is asking for Nestlé's policy in Australia for GM ingredients in infant food and formula.

Greenpeace China sent a sample of a Nestlé-branded baby food cereal bought in Beijing to an independent laboratory to test for genetically modified DNA. It came back positive.

<http://www.greenpeace.org/china/en/news/nestle-baby-food>

Greenpeace reported that the sample contained a range of GM DNA, including GM DNA from a virus and from a bacterial Bt gene. The Bt genes create insecticide in GM crops.

Greenpeace said that Nestlé doesn't sell GM food in Europe and Brazil, but clearly this doesn't apply in China. Indian babies are also denied a GM-free policy from Nestlé's

<http://greenpeace.in/safefood/>.

MADGE wants to know the Nestlé's GM policy for Australian babies.

MADGE researcher Madeleine Love said "There are many ingredients in infant food and infant formula which could be GM. Unfortunately Australia's food regulator FSANZ doesn't require most of them to be labelled, even though they may contain GM residues."

"Australian parents are being denied the basic right to choose the food we feed our babies. The best we can do is rely on a promise from a multi-national company with varying international policies for babies."

Some doctors groups are now saying that the weight of evidence of harm from GM food is in¹, citing several animal studies indicating serious health risks associated with GM food consumption including infertility, immune dysregulation, accelerated aging, dysregulation of genes associated with cholesterol synthesis, insulin regulation, cell signaling, and protein formation, and changes in the liver, kidney, spleen and gastrointestinal system.

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¹ "Genetically Modified Foods" position paper; American Academy of Environmental Medicine; <http://www.aeonline.org/gmopost.html>