

Gene Ecology

ABOUT GENE ECOLOGY

Gene Ecology is a new interdisciplinary field that is unique in its combination of genetics and biochemistry with bio-ethics, the philosophy of science, and social studies of science and technology. It builds on innovative work in the areas of genomics, proteomics, food science, ecology, evolution, intellectual property rights and indigenous rights, participatory technology assessment, and globalisation. This interdisciplinary approach reverses the trend towards the more reductionist approaches in some of the contributing sciences in the field. Gene ecology is rapidly becoming a central discipline for the comprehensive evaluation of gene-based technologies.

The Specialist Group brings together scientists who feel concerned about the implications of genetically modified organisms to the environment. It is important not only to cooperate with scientists who investigate on environmental impacts but it is also required to look at secondary effects for farming, the environment and the consumers. Therefore, we look at biosafety and biodiversity issues, socio-ecological implications and the agro-economical context.

MEMBERS

- √ 54 members from universities, research institutes, governmental institutions, NGOs, consultancies
- √ Members from Germany, Switzerland, Austria and the Netherlands

Gesellschaft für Ökologie Ecological Society of Germany, Austria and Switzerland



Rape seed fields with 200 m buffer zones (Henrick Laue, PhD thesis, GenEERA) Expert Group meeting 2005

RECENT ACTIVITIES

- √ Conference 2008
GMLS - International conference on implications of GM crop cultivation at large spatial scales
- √ Symposium as part of the GfÖ Annual Conference 2005
Risk analysis of GMOs and in other fields of ecology
- √ Conference 2003
Risk, hazard, damage - Specification of criteria to assess environmental impacts of GMOs
- √ Conference 2001
Ökologische und ökosystemanalytische Ansätze für das Monitoring von GVO

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- √ Further symposia as part of GfÖ Annual Conferences
- √ Further conferences & workshops, eg. GMLS II
- √ Cooperation and networking with European scientists

<http://www.gfoe.org>