Asia Sub Regional Training-of-Trainers Workshop on the Identification and Documentation of Living Modified Organisms

# **Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms**

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National Bureau of plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi

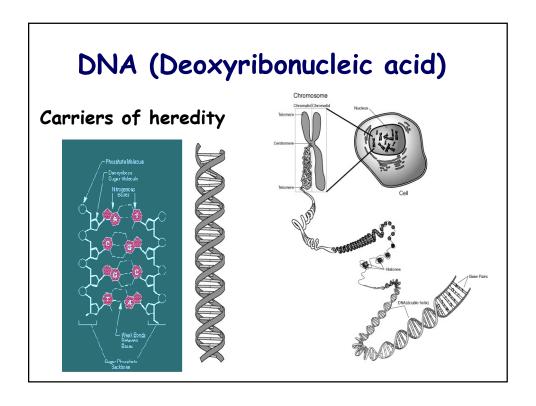
E-mail: gir@nbpgr.ernet.in gurinder.randhawa@rediffmail.com

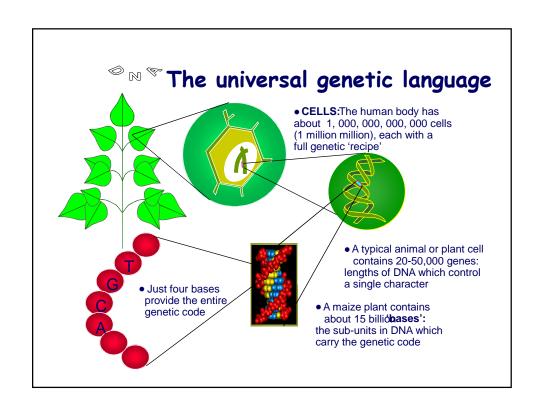




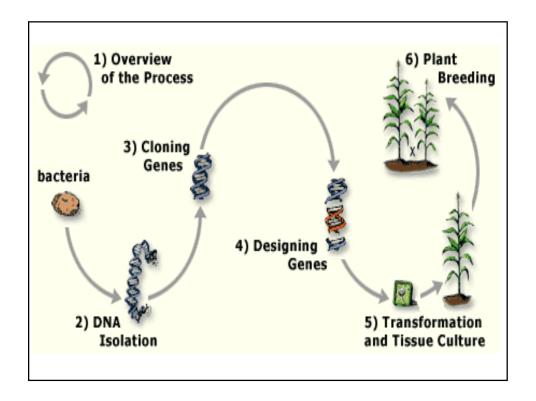
# Living Modified Organisms or Genetically Modified Organisms

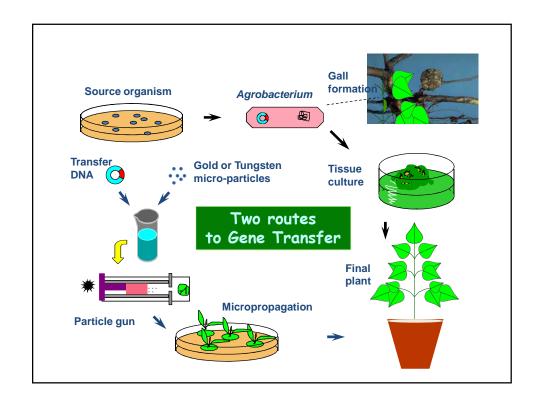
- Any living organism that possesses a novel combination of genetic material obtained through the use of modern biotechnology
- Living organism means biological entity capable of transferring or replicating genetic material

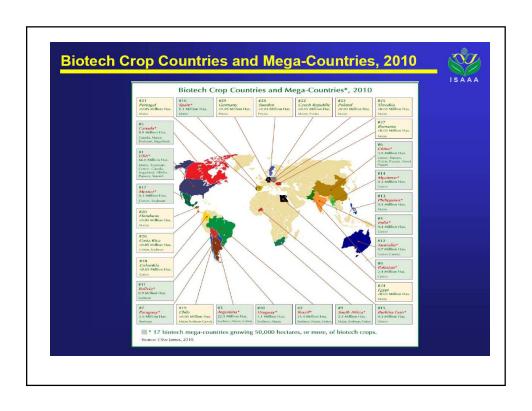


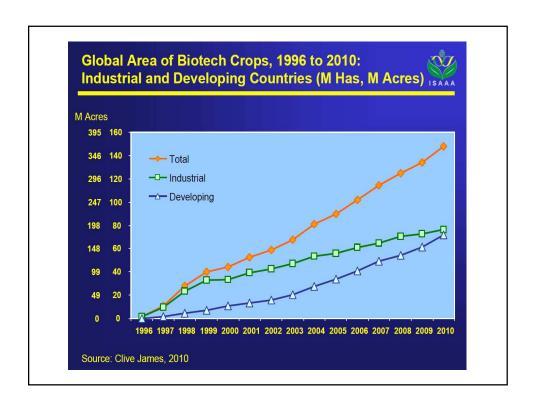


## THE PROCESS .....









## Commercially Released Hybrids/Variety of Bt cotton of the Six events in India from 2002-till date

No.	Crop	Event	Developer	Status	Date of Approval
1	Cotton*	MON-531	Mahyco/Monsanto	Commercialized	2002
2	Cotton*	MON-15985	Mahyco/Monsanto	Commercialized	2006
3	Cotton*	Event-1	JK Agri-Genetics	Commercialized	2006
4	Cotton*	<b>GFM Event</b>	Nath Seeds	Commercialized	2006
5	Cotton**	BNLA-601	CICR (ICAR) & UAS, Dharwad	Commercialized	2008
6	Cotton*	MLS-9124	Metahelix Life Sciences	Commercialized	2009

\*Bt cotton hybrid; \*\* Bt cotton variety and Bt cotton hybrid

Source: Compiled by ISAAA, 2009.

## **Purpose of Detection Methods**

To assure purity and segregation of seeds and products thereof

To be able to trace genetic modification in breeding



To assure compliance with legislation

To be able to retrieve specific transgenic planting material in case of unauthorized material is being grown



To solve legal/IPR issues if they arise

### **Testing of GM Crops**

### **Detection**

To determine whether a sample contains any transgene



OF



### Identification

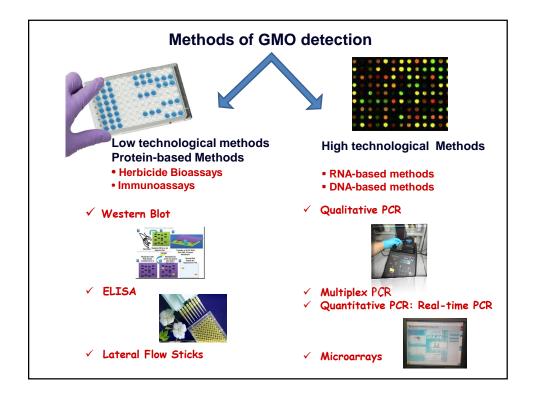
If the results are positive, further analysis is required to find which specific transgene is present in it?

Insect Resistance

Herbicide Tolerance

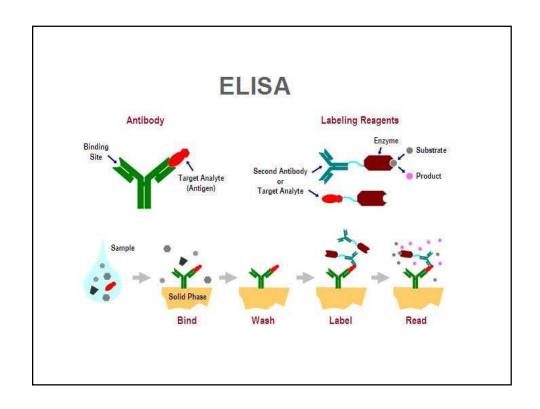
### Quantification

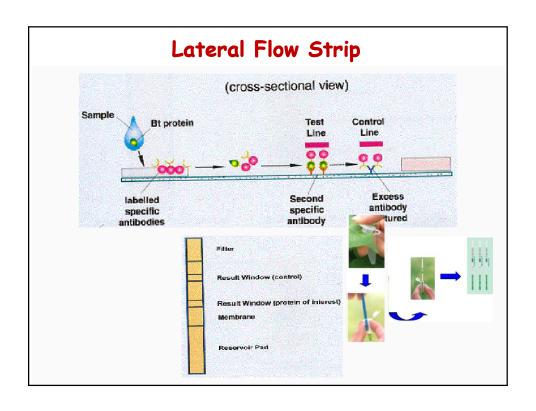
If the specific transgene has been identified, the next step is to assess compliance with threshold level (e.g.1%)



## Protein-based Methods for Detection of GMOs

- 1. Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)
- 2. Lateral Flow Strip Methods





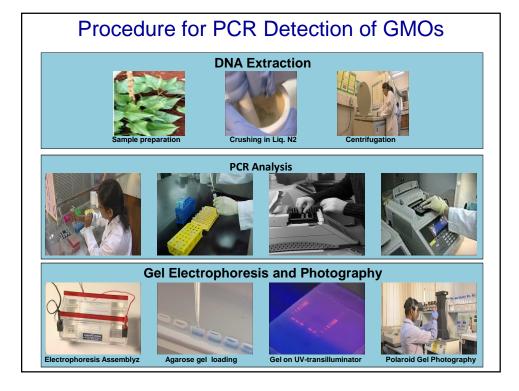
## Advantages of ELISA

- ✓ High development costs for the assays
- ✓ GM products might be produced only during certain developmental stages or in certain plant parts and such GMs are difficult to be detected by ELISA
- ✓ In processed foods the proteins denatures easily, which makes it difficult to use ELISA for processed food fractions

- **✓** Reasonably sensitive
- ✓ Less susceptible to 'false positives'
- ✓ Low per sample cost
- ✓ Handles large number of samples
- ✓ Can be subjected to automation
- ✓ Detection kits available commercially

Limitations of ELISA

**DNA-based Methods for Detection of GMOs** 



## Advantages of PCR

- Require relatively advanced lab. facilities and instrumentation and highly trained staff
- √ Cost is fairly high (\$75-\$300)
- ✓ Time (usually >24 hrs for results)
- Special precautions need to be taken to avoid the contamination

- ✓ High species specificity
- ✓ High sensitivity. Detection limits≤ 0.1% of DNA present
- ✓ Semi-quantitative PCR can provide a rough estimate of the level of contamination
- ✓ Real-Time PCR providing quite accurate quantitation in the less than 10% range
- ✓ DNA highly stable

Limitations of PCR

## GM Planting Material grown in National Containment Facility





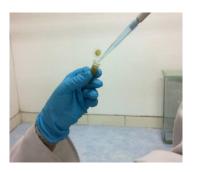


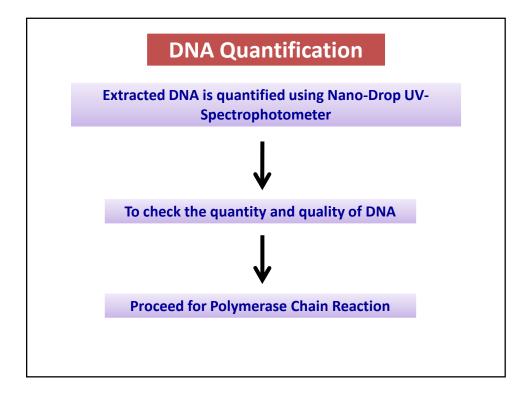
## **DNA Extraction**

Isolation of Genomic DNA (containing the gene of interest) from the LMO

Using Conventional Methods (CTAB/SDS Extraction Protocol)
OR
Commercialized Kits for DNA Isolation







## **Primer Designing**

## DNA target sequence

gggttgttgtgtatgcagtcagaaaagagagacgaatgggtgctt ctttgctacgtttacattttcatgattgtttcgttaacggttgtgatgctt cgattctccttgaccaaacttctaccattaatagtgaaaagacttc tcgasiapacificworkshoponidentificationoflmosaacaat tctgctagaggatttgaggtgattgataaaattaaatcagaggttg ataaagtttgtggacgtccgggggttgttgtgtatgcagtcagaaa agagagacgaatgggtgcttctttgctacgtttacattttcatgattg tttcgttaacggttgtgatgcttcgattct

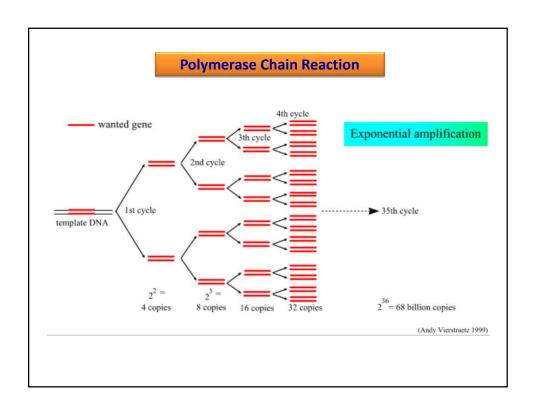
## DNA target sequence

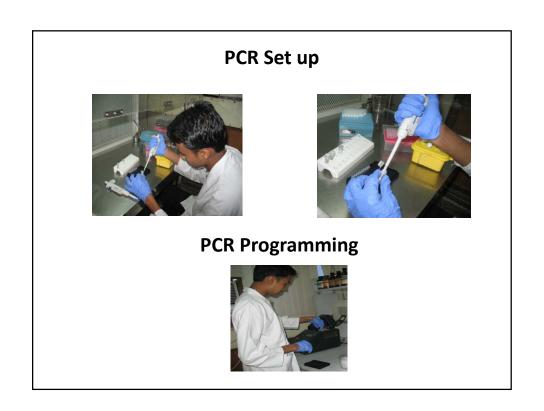
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cagaggttgataaagtttgtggacgtccgggggttgttgtgtat
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ct

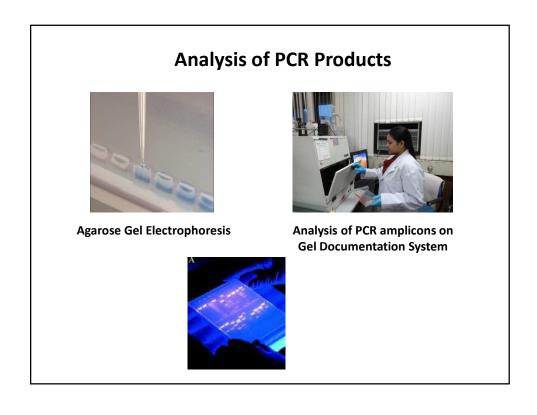
## **Primers**

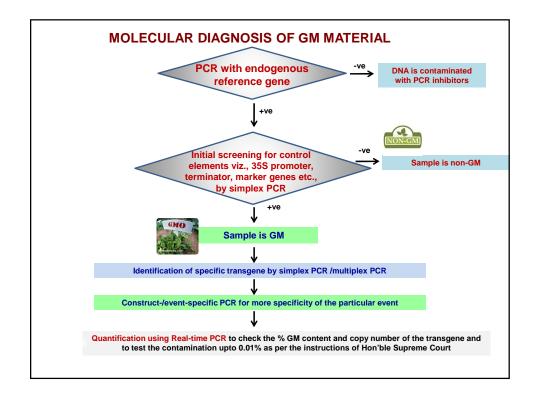
Tg atgcttcg attctccttg accaa acttct accatta atagtg

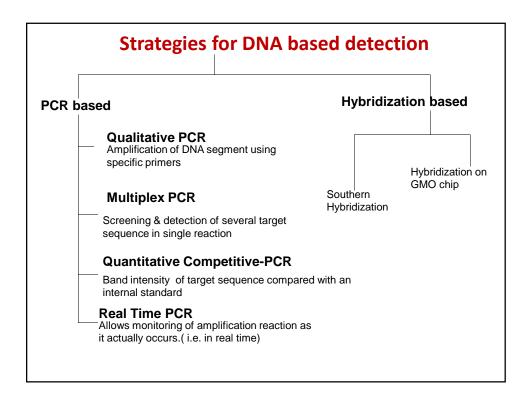
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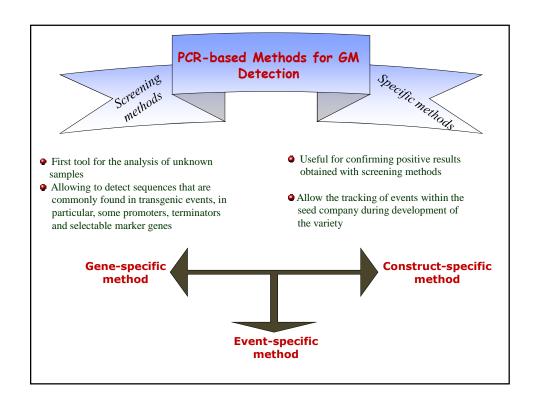


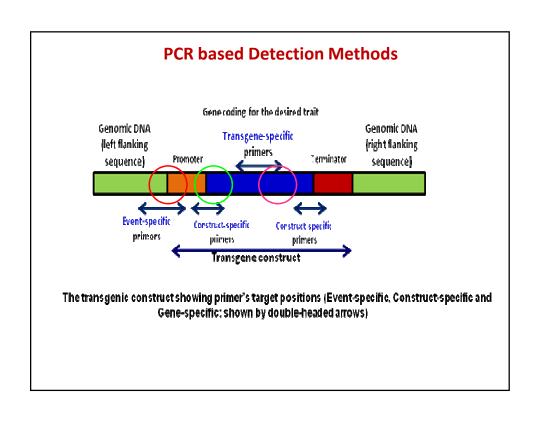






## **Qualitative PCR Analysis**





## Identification, standardization and validation of endogenous reference genes in different GM crops

**Characteristics of Endogenous Reference Gene** 

- √ Species specificity
- ✓ Low heterogeneity among cultivars
- ✓ Stable and low copy number in the genome (a single copy is best)

### **Purpose of having Reference Gene**

- √ To confirm the origin of plant materials
- √ To exclude the false-negative
- √ To normalize the quantitative result

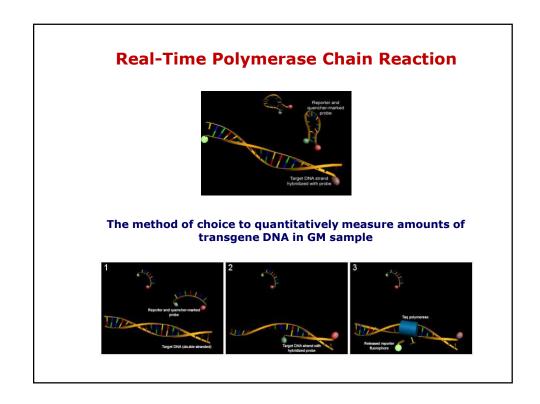
## **Quantitative – Real Time PCR**

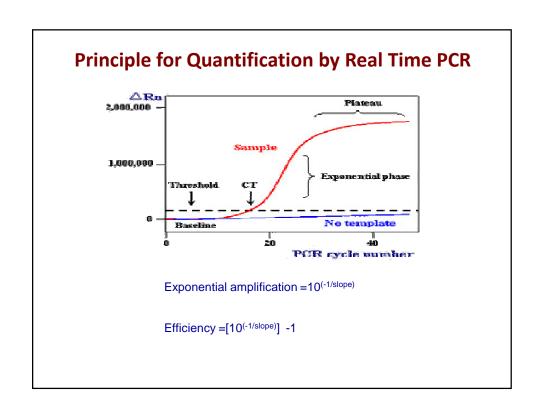






- Real-time monitoring of the amplification reaction
- To estimate the initial quantity of specific template DNA
- Advantages: Sensitivity, reproducibility, dynamic range, throughput



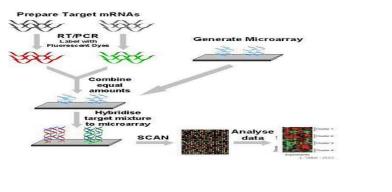


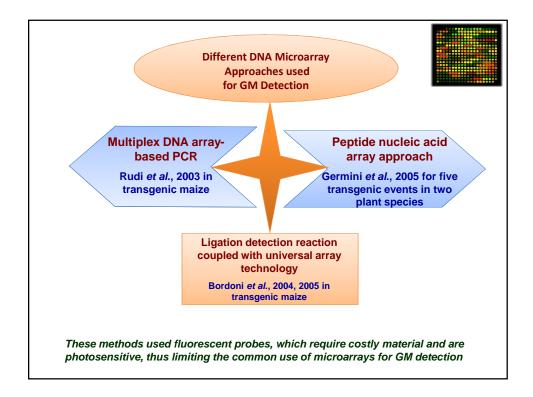
## **Recent Techniques Available For GM Detection**

## Micro-array based method

- Automated rapid screening
- Based on nucleic acid hybridisation
- Specific probes are attached to the chip



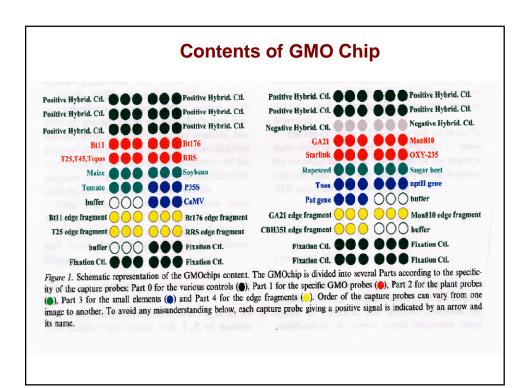


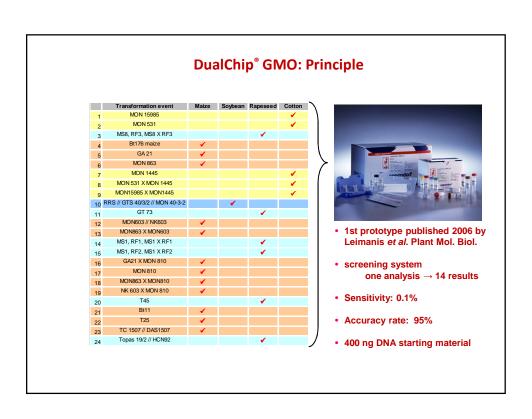


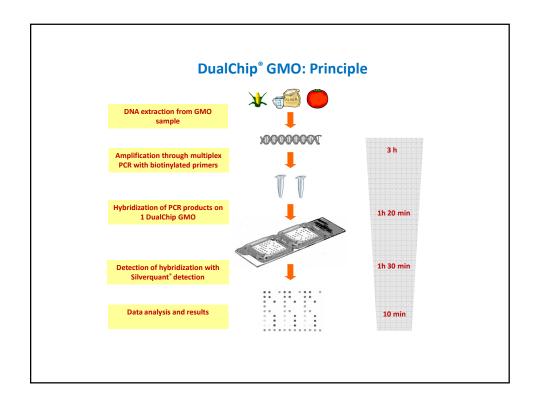
## Microarray based detection system of GM food ingredients (Leimanis et al. 2006)

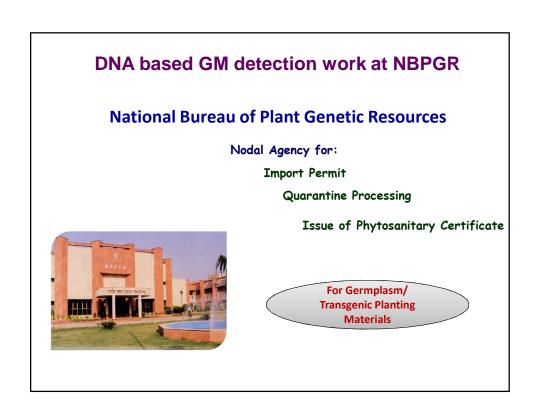
- Developed a multiplex DNA microarray chip for simultaneous identification of nine GMOs, five plant species and three GMO screening elements, i.e., the 35S promoter, nos terminator and nptll gene
- The chips include several controls (e.g. presence of CaMV)
- The targets were biotin labeled
- Arrays were detected using a colorimetric methodology
- Sensitivity of experiments carried out in five different laboratories
- **Limit of detection was lower than 0.3% GMO for all the tests**

Leimanis et al. (2006) A microarray-based detection system for genetically modified (GM) food ingredients. *Plant Mol. Bio.* 61: 123-139.









## **DBT Import Clearance**

### Para 4

applicant to certify to NBPGR

material being imported conform to the description given in the import clearance

NBPGR to retain 5% of the seed in the safe custody

#### Para 5

supplier to certify that the imported transgenic material contains transgenes conforming to those described in the permission no embryo-genesis deactivator (terminator) gene



### **Capacity Building in GM Detection at NBPGR**

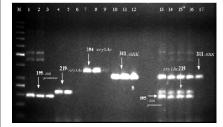
- **♣** NBPGR has been actively involved in testing of transgenes in the imported transgenic material since 2000.
- DBT project "National Containment/Quarantine facility for testing of Transgenic Material"
- Established a State-of- Art National Containment Facility of CL-4 level
- Well-equipped transgenic testing laboratory for PCR based testing of imported transgenic lines



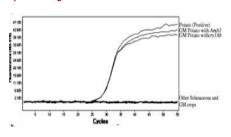
Crop & No. of Imports	Transgenes	Traits	Country of Import
Zea Mays (44)	cry1Ab, cry1A.105, cry2Ab2, cry1F gat, cp4epsps, mepsps Gus & control elements	Insect resistance Herbicide tolerance	USA, South Africa, Philippines
Oryza sativa (41)	cry1Ac, cry1Ab, cry1Ca, cry19C, GFM-cry1A, cry2A AmAı, ferritin, crtl, ley Basta, cq4e9sps, bar Xa-21 HAS, ScFv, AFP-AG	Insect resistance High nutritional quality Herbicide tolerance Bacterial pathogen resistance Nematode resistance	USA, Belgium, Philippines, UK, Switzerland, Vietnam, China
Gossypium cry1Ac, cry2Ab, cry1Ab-cry1Ac, cp4epsps, cry1F, vip3A, cry2Ae, cry1Ab Cp4epsps 355**Old, B, C & Mannosyl transferase At ANP1, AtSOS2, At A-20, At CBF3, At SOS1		Insect resistance Herbicide tolerance Drought tolerance Salinity and drought tolerance	China, USA
Brassica spp. (8)  cry9C, cry1Ba, cry1Ca Barnase, barstar, bar Osmades-1		Insect resistance Male sterility and restoration of male fertility & glufosinate ammonium herbicide resistance Reduced apical dominance	Belgium, The Netherlands, Australia
Lycopersicon esculentum (3)  AVP1 arg		Increased salt and drought tolerance Insect resistance	
Glycine max (3)	Cp4epsps	Herbicide tolerance	USA
Triticum aestivum (2)	HAS, ScFv, AFP-AG Cp4epsps	Nematode resistance Herbicide tolerance	Germany, USA
Cicer arietinum (2)	Bean-alpha amylase inhibitor	Insect resistance	Australia, Scotland
Nicotiana tabacum (1)	Alternate oxidase		Canada
Solanum tuberosum (1)	RB	Late blight resistance	USA

#### Standardization of Endogenous Reference Genes

 Molecular characterization of Bt cauliflower with multiplex PCR and validation of endogenous reference gene in Brassicaceae family



2. Validation of ST-LS as reference gene for detection of GM potato using Real Time PCR



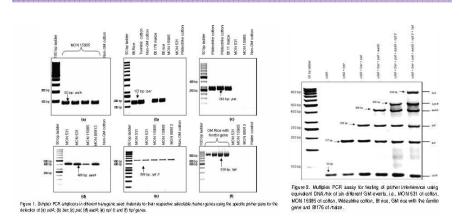
Specificity analysis of the potato ST-LS1 gene using qualitative real time PCR

a. Amplification plot generated from 11 different crops (Solanum tuberosum,
Solanum melongena, Lycopersicon esculentum, Capsicum arnum, Datura
stramonium, Peturia hybrida, Cossypium, Zea mays, Oryza sativa, Brassica
oleracea var. Botrytis, Abelmoschus esculentus)

Source: 1. Randhawa G.J, R Chhabra and M Singh (2008) Molecular Characterization of Bt Cauliflower with Multiplex PCR and Validation of Endogenous Reference Gene in Brassicaceae Family. *Current Science*. 95, No.12:1729-31

2. Randhawa G.J, M Singh & R Sharma (2009) Validation of ST-LS1 as an endogenous reference gene for detection of AmA1 and cry1Ab genes in genetically modified potatoes using multiplex and real time PCR. *Amer. J. Pot. Res.*, 86: 398–405.

## Initial screening through Simplex / multiplex PCR-based amplification of marker & reporter genes for screening GM crops



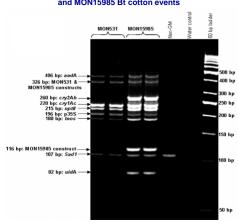
Simultaneous amplification of six commonly used marker genes viz., nptll, aadA, bar, pat, hpt and uidA

Randhawa G.J, R Chhabra and M Singh (2009) Multiplex PCR-based simultaneous amplification of selectable marker and reporter genes for screening of genetically modified crops. J. Agri. Food Chem. 57 (12): 5167-5172.

Identification of specific transgene by simplex PCR /multiplex PCR
Development of qualitative and quantitative PCR assays

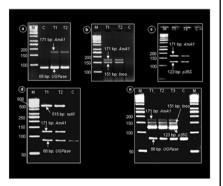
Event	Multiplex PCR	Transgenes + reference gene involved
Bt cotton MON 531	Heptaplex	fs-ACP + cry1Ac + 35S promoter + nos term. + nptll + aadA + cry1Ac construct
Bt cotton MON 15985	Decaplex	fs-ACP + cry1Ac + cry2Ab + 35S promoter + nos term. + nptll + aadA + uidA + cry1Ac construct + cry2Ab construct
Bt Rice	Triplex	cry1Ac, nptII + $\alpha$ -tubulin
Bt Brinjal	Quadraplex	cry1Ac, caMV 35S promoter, aadA + β- fructosidase
Bt Brinjal	Triplex	cry1Ab, 35S promoter + β- fructosidase
Bt cauliflower	Triplex	cry1Ac, 35S promoter + SRK
Bt Okra	Quadraplex	cry1Ac, nptll, 35s promoter + chloroplast t-RNAomat
GM tomato	Quadraplex	Avp1, nptll, 35S promoter + LATS2,
GM tomato	Triplex	Osmotin + 35S promoter + LAT52,
GM potato	Triplex/ Quadraplex	RB gene, CaMV 35S promoter, npt II marker + UGPase
GM potato	Triplex/ Quadraplex	Ama1 gene, CaMV 35S promoter, nos terminator, nptII + UGPase
GM potato	Triplex/ Quadraplex	cry1Ab gene, CaMV 35S promoter, nos , nptll + UGPase

## Decaplex and Real-Time PCR Based Detection of MON531 and MON15985 Bt cotton events



Transgene- and construct-specific multiplex PCR for discrimination of two Bt cotton events, i.e., MON531 and MON15985 using primer pairs for cry1Ac and cry2Ab transgenes, nptll, aadA, and uidA marker genes, CaMV 355 promoter, nos terminator, endogenous Sad1 gene, and specific gene constructs in MON531/MON15895 and MON15985.

Duplex, triplex and quadruplex PCR for molecular characterization of GM Potato with improved protein quality



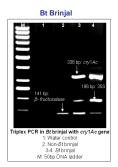
PCR in duplex,triplex and Quadraplex format for Detection of GM Potato with *Ama1* gene Lane M: 50 bp DNA ladder; Lanes T1, T2, T3,: GM potato with *AmA1* gene; Lane C: Non-GM potato

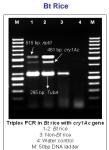
Source: Randhawa G.J., R Chhabra and M Singh (2010) Decaplex and Real-Time PCR Based Detection of MON531 and MON15985 Bt cotton events.

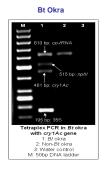
Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry (2010) 58 (18), pp 9875–9881.

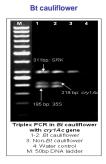
Randhawa G.J, Monika Singh & Ruchi Sharma (2009) Duplex, triplex and quadruplex PCR for molecular characterization of genetically modified potato with better protein quality. *Current Science*, 97 (1): 21-23.

#### Multiplex PCR assays for detection of Bt crops with cry1Ac gene





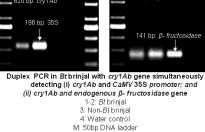


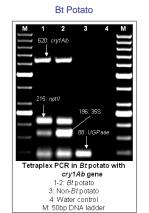


Source: Randhawa G.J., M Singh, R Chhabra and R Sharma (2010) Qualitative and Quantitative Molecular Testing Methodologies and Traceability Systems for Bt Crops Commercialised or Under Field Trials in India. *Food Analytical Methods* 3 (4), 295-303

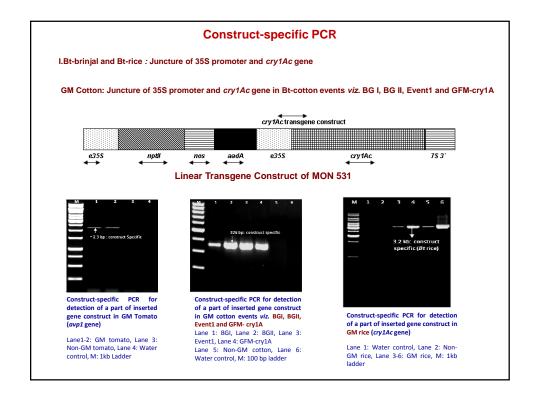
#### Multiplex PCR assays for detection of Bt crops with cry1Ab gene

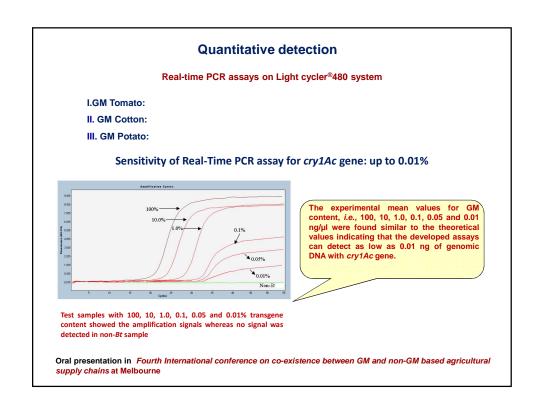






Source: Randhawa G.J., M Singh, R Chhabra and R Sharma (2010) Qualitative and Quantitative Molecular Testing Methodologies and Traceability Systems for Bt Crops Commercialised or Under Field Trials in India. *Food Analytical Methods* 3 (4), 295-303





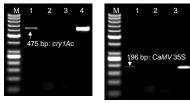
#### Sampling strategies for PCR-based transgene detection

- An appropriate seed sampling strategy developed to screen or/and quantify GM content in laboratory and analytical samples to be prepared as the guidelines of International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) 1999.
- The detection limit up to 0.1% (by mixing 1 GM seed + 2999 non-GM seeds) at 95% probability level in GM Brinjal with *cry1Ac* gene and GM Tomato with *AVP1* gene has been achieved.

#### Bt Brinjal case study

1 Bt brinjal seed is mixed with a seed lot of 2999 non-GM brinjal seeds to get detection limit of

0.1% at 95% probability level



PCR amplification of cry1Ac gene and CaMV 35S promoter gene in Bt-brinjal test sample

Lane 1: Bt-brinjal test sample (1 GM brinjal seed + 2999 non-GM brinjal seeds) Lane 2: Non-GM brinjal Lane 3: Water control

Lane 4: Positive Bt-brinjal (100% GM) (with cry1Ac gene)

#### **Recent Publications**

- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2010) Decaplex and Real-Time PCR Based Detection of MON531 and MON15985 Bt cotton events. J Agric Food Chem 58 (18), 9875–9881
- Randhawa G.J., Singh M and Grover M (2010) Bioinformatic analysis for allergenicity assessment of Bacillus thuringiensis Cry proteins expressed in insect-resistant GM food crops. Food Chem Toxicol doi:10.1016/j.fct.2010.11.008
- 3. Randhawa, GJ et. al (2010) Qualitative and Quantitative Molecular Testing Methodologies and Traceability Systems for Bt Crops Commercialised or Under Field Trials in India. Food Anal Methods 3
  (4) 295-303
- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2010) Multiplex PCR-based simultaneous amplification of selectable marker and reporter genes for screening of Genetically modified crops. J Agric Food Chem 57, 5167-5172
- 5. Tiwari S P and Randhawa G.J. (2010) Strategies to Monitor the Adventitious Presence of Transgenes in Ex Situ Collection *In J Agric Sci* 81 (5): 351-6.
- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2010) PCR-based detection of genetically modified tomato overexpressing a mutant of Arabidopsis vacuolar H<sup>+</sup>-pyrophosphatase gene employing seed sampling strategy. Seed Sci Technol (in press)
- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2009) Validation of ST-LS1 as an endogenous reference gene for detection of AmA1 and cry1Ab genes in genetically modified potatoes using multiplex and real time PCR. Am J Pot Res 86:398-405
- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2009) Import and Commercialization of Transgenic Crops: An Indian Perspective. Asian Biotech Develop Review 11(2) 115-130
- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2009) Duplex, triplex and quadraplex PCR for molecular characterization of Genetically Modified Potato with improved protein quality Curr Sci. 97 (1) 21-23
- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2009) Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction for detection of genetically modified potato with cry1Ab gene. In J Agric Sci 79 (5):368-71

- Randhawa, GJ et. al (2009) Molecular Characterization of Bt Cauliflower with Multiplex PCR and Validation of Endogenous Reference Gene in Brassicaceae Family. Curr Sci. 95, No.12:1729-31
- 11. Randhawa, GJ et. al (2010) Molecular diagnosis of transgenic Tomato with osmotin gene using Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction. Curr Sci. 96, No. 5: 689-694

#### **Technical Article/Brochure**

- 1. Regulation with Confidence: DNA-based Diagnostics of Genetically Modified Crops, (2010) Biotech News 5 (5), 192-195
- 2. DNA-based Diagnostics of Genetically Modified Crops, 2010, pp 6.

#### **GMO Detections kits**

- Available in India at a competitive price
- Excellent specificity and Sensitivity
- Robust performance with long term stability
- Only one manufacturer in Asia

Amar Immunodiagnostics Pvt Ltd 242/1, Road No 18, Jubilee Hills Hyderabad, AP 500033 India Tel: 91-4023552953 Fax: 91-4023552954 e mail: amar.immunodiagnostics@gmail.com

By: Dr. Jayant K Bhanushali Director-R & D Amar Immunodiagnostics Pvt Ltd

#### **LIST of GMO ELISA kits**

- 1. Cry1Ac ELISA kit (Screening Assay)
- 2. Cry2A ELISA kit
- 3. Cry1Ac ELISA kit (WideStrike specific gene)
- 4. Cry1Ac ELISA kit (Chinese specific gene)
- 5. Cry1F ELISA kit (WideStrike specific)
- 6. RoundUp Ready ELISA kit
- 7. Cry1C ELISA kit
- 8. Cry1EC ELISA kit (Fusion of Cry1Ac and Cry1C)

### **Transfer and Commercialization of Technologies**



Fransgenic crop/Event	Transgenes	Amplicon size (bp)	Catalog no:
Cotton			
Bollgard (Mon 531)	Cry1 Ac	228	AID 101
Bollgard II (MON 15985)	Cryl Ac, Cry2A	223/260	AID 102
WideStrike	Cry1F, Cry1Ac	300/228	AID 103
MON 1445 (RoundUp Ready)	CP 4EPSPS	506	AID 105
Brinjal			
For insect registance	CrylAc	475	AID 107
For insect resistance	CrylAb	620	AID 108
Soybean			
RoundUp Ready Soyabean	CP4EPSP	441	AID 100
Maize		Trans.	
018 MOM	CrylAb	170	AID 111
RoundUp Ready Marze	CP4EPSPS	441	AID 112
Tomato			
For drought and salt tolerance	Osmotin	418	AID 113
For drought and salt tolerance	Avpl-F/R	451	AID 114
Cauliflower			
For insect to lerance	Cry1Ac 1	219/354	AID 115
Mustard For male sterility	Barnase, barstar	300/352	AID 116
	Darnase, carstar	300/352	AID 110
Rice	2.11	192	AID 117
For insect resistance	CrylAc	192	AID H7
	2.14	201	Lamina
For insect registance Postam	CrylAc	391	AID 118
For insect resistance	Crv1Ab	620	AID 119
	AmA 1-171 F/R	171	AID 120
For better nutritional quality For late blight resistance	RB RB	375	AID 121
Promoter and Marker Genes	NB .	313	AID 121
Promoter and startoer Genes	35S	196	AID 122
Promoter Terminator	NOS	180	AID 122
Antibiotic marker	NPTII	503	AID 124
Endogenous genes	Petiti	200	AID 124
Cotton	Sadl	107	WID 125
Bririal	Pomtom F/R	141	AID 126
Sovhean	Lectin	178	AID 127
Maize	Zein	329	AID 128
Tomato	Lat 52	92	AID 129
Tomato	PomTom	143	AID 130
Cauliflower	SRK	311	AID 131
Mustard	HMG1/Y	99	AID 192
Rice	a-tubulin	295	AID 133
Potato	1IGP	233	AID 134
Okra	Choloroplast-tRNA gene	595	AID 135

