

ANALYSIS OF GM POLL RESULTS

1. Want Councils to Have a Role in Regulating Use of GM Plants and Animals, Either Directly or Through ERMA Process:

| Council | Percentage (%) |
|-------------|----------------|
| FNDC | 71 |
| WDC | 76 |
| KDC | 74 |
| RDC | 66 |
| WCC | 75 |
| AR | 68 |
| NR | 74 |

- Strong support for local government to have a role in regulating use of GM plants and animals.

2. Want Regulation to Make GM Plants and Animal Users Legally Responsible for Environmental/Economic Harm:

| Council | Percentage (%) |
|-------------|----------------|
| FNDC | 63 |
| WDC | 72 |
| KDC | 68 |
| RDC | 63 |
| WCC | 69 |
| AR | 64 |
| NR | 67 |

- Strong support for making users of GM plants and animals responsible for environmental/economic harm (strict liability).

3. Want Councils to Have Right to Prohibit GM Plants and Animals by Setting Rules or Through ERMA Process:

| Council | Percentage (%) |
|-------------|----------------|
| FNDC | 50 |
| WDC | 55 |
| KDC | 52 |
| RDC | 46 |
| WCC | 51 |
| AR | 44 |
| NR | 53 |

- Moderate support for councils to have right to prohibit GM plants and animals either directly or through ERMA process. RDC and AR less than 50%; others above 50% support.

4. Want Councils to Set Rules for Use of GM Plants and Animals:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) | No Preference (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| FNDC | 42 | 39 | 16 |
| WDC | 49 | 37 | 13 |
| KDC | 49 | 34 | 16 |
| RDC | 40 | 44 | 13 |
| WCC | 47 | 36 | 16 |
| AR | 40 | 40 | 18 |
| NR | 46 | 37 | 14 |

- Levels of support for councils setting rules for use of GM plants and animals vary. Support significant in WDC, KDC, WCC, and NR. FNDC, RDC and AR results not significantly different.

5. Of Those Who Supported Council Setting Rules, What Level of Regulation Favoured:

| Council | Total Prohibition (%) | Food Production Prohibited/Other Uses Allowed (%) | Users Liable for Environmental/Economic Harm (%) |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| FNDC | 51 | 19 | 29 |
| WDC | 57 | 18 | 25 |
| KDC | 56 | 21 | 20 |
| RDC | 50 | 25 | 22 |
| WCC | 46 | 19 | 34 |
| AR | 39 | 27 | 32 |
| NR | 55 | 18 | 26 |

- Total prohibition the most favoured level of regulation, followed by strict liability, and then food production prohibited/other uses allowed. Support for total prohibition significantly higher than other options.

6. Of Those Who Did Not Support Council Setting Rules, Want Councils to Lobby Central Government to:

| Council | Give councils ability to reject use of GM plants and animals when ERMA processing application (%) | | Make users of GM plants and animals liable for environmental/economic harm (%) | |
|-------------|---|----|--|----|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| FNDC | 52 | 38 | 53 | 32 |
| WDC | 55 | 34 | 63 | 28 |
| KDC | 50 | 35 | 62 | 24 |
| RDC | 46 | 45 | 59 | 30 |
| WCC | 54 | 29 | 60 | 23 |
| AR | 49 | 40 | 62 | 24 |
| NR | 54 | 36 | 59 | 29 |

- Clear support for councils to lobby central government to give councils ability to reject use of GM plants and animals during ERMA process. Result not significant at RDC.
- Strong support to lobby central government to make users of GM plants and animals liable for environmental/economic harm. Results significant for all councils.

7. People Should Be Able to Produce GM Plants and Animals if They Choose to:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| FNDC | 23 | 67 |
| WDC | 19 | 72 |
| KDC | 23 | 67 |
| RDC | 25 | 65 |
| WCC | 30 | 60 |
| AR | 22 | 61 |
| NR | 21 | 70 |

- Little support for allowing land owners to produce GM plants and animals without regulation, i.e. strong support for some form of regulation. All results statistically significant.

8. NZ Should Only Produce Food that is GM Free:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| FNDC | 58 | 29 |
| WDC | 54 | 32 |
| KDC | 57 | 30 |
| RDC | 52 | 36 |
| WCC | 53 | 28 |
| AR | 50 | 38 |
| NR | 56 | 31 |

- Clear support for NZ producing only GM free food. All results statistically significant.

9. GM Plants and Animals Will Provide Economic Benefits:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| FNDC | 24 | 49 |
| WDC | 26 | 45 |
| KDC | 25 | 52 |
| RDC | 28 | 47 |
| WCC | 30 | 40 |
| AR | 41 | 37 |
| NR | 25 | 47 |

- Clear rejection that GM plants and animals will provide economic benefits, except in AR.

10. GM Will Harm the Local Tourism Industry:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| FNDC | 41 | 35 |
| WDC | 41 | 35 |
| KDC | 41 | 33 |
| RDC | 38 | 42 |
| WCC | 37 | 41 |
| AR | 34 | 42 |
| NR | 41 | 35 |

- Split over whether GM will harm the local tourism industry. NR indicates yes; AR indicates no.

11. GM Will Harm the Local Food Industry:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| FNDC | 41 | 35 |
| WDC | 41 | 35 |
| KDC | 41 | 33 |
| RDC | 38 | 42 |
| WCC | 37 | 41 |
| AR | 34 | 42 |
| NR | 41 | 35 |

- Split over whether GM will harm the local food industry. NR indicates yes; AR indicates no.

12. Leave Open Option for GM Plants and Animals in Future:

| Council | Yes (%) | No (%) |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| FNDC | 58 | 31 |
| WDC | 65 | 28 |
| KDC | 57 | 32 |
| RDC | 63 | 28 |
| WCC | 66 | 22 |
| AR | 66 | 26 |
| NR | 62 | 30 |

- Strong support to leave open the option for GM plants and animals in the future.

13. Want Councils to Set Rules for Use of GM Plants and Animals (Ethnicity):

| | Ethnicity | Yes (%) | No (%) | No Preference (%) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| Auckland Region | NZ European | 42 | 46 | 11 |
| | Maori | 45 | 39 | 16 |
| | Other Ethnicity | 37 | 34 | 16 |
| Northland Region | NZ European | 44 | 44 | 11 |
| | Maori | 54 | 22 | 19 |
| | Other Ethnicity | 42 | 35 | 20 |

- Support for councils to set rules for use of GM plants and animals strongest amongst Maori, particularly in Northland Region.

14. Want Councils to Set Rules for Use of GM Plants and Animals (Urban/Rural):

| | | Yes (%) | No (%) | No Preference (%) |
|------------------|------------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| Auckland Region | Urban | 39 | 42 | 18 |
| | Semi Rural | 49 | 35 | 15 |
| | Rural | 34 | 29 | 29 |
| Northland Region | Urban | 48 | 35 | 15 |
| | Semi Rural | 48 | 36 | 13 |
| | Rural | 42 | 41 | 14 |

- Support for councils to set rules for use of GM plants and animals strongest amongst semi-rural residents. Rural residents more evenly divided. Urban view varies by region. NR indicates yes; AR indicates no.

CONCLUSIONS

- Dissatisfaction with existing regulatory regime for GM plants and animals.
- Dissatisfaction with existing liability provisions for GM plants and animals.
- Strong support for councils to have a role in regulating use of GM plants and animals, either by setting rules directly or through ERMA process.
- Strong support for introducing a strict liability regime for users of GM plants and animals.