



appendix 2

Outcomes of Consultation: Submissions  
from Interested Persons

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## 2. Submitter profiles

A submitter profile was obtained by coding submitters according to the areas in which they were primarily engaged and the stances they took on various issues. This information identified the main sectoral focus (usually the production sector in which each submitter was principally engaged) and the submitter type (essentially the type of organisation where the submitter worked)

### Main sector focus

The main sector focus of each submitter was coded according to the main activity or business focus of their organisation. Over 60 codes were identified. These codes covered the main production sectors in agriculture, forestry, fishing and manufacturing. Codes for submitters principally involved in industries focusing on biotechnology and research were also recorded, as well as environmental, religious, ethical, cultural and Maori groupings. For each broad sector a range of activities was identified. For example, in the health sector separate codes were identified for health advocacy, health research and health service providers.

Biotechnology was the main sector focus for the largest group of submitters. The prime sector focus for the major groups was:

- biotechnology (15 submitters)
- environmental advocacy (nine submitters)
- research sector other (ie, not health or social and economic) (six submitters)
- health research (five submitters)
- governance, including local government (five submitters).

### Submitter type

Submitters were also coded according to the type of organisation they represented. The categories included Crown Research Institutes, private research companies, universities, consumer networks and associations, industry networks and associations, religious networks and associations, organic networks and associations, government departments, Maori networks and associations, Runanga and trust boards, national Maori organisations, state-owned enterprises and private companies.

The biggest grouping of submitters came from industry networks and associations.

A breakdown of the major grouping was:

- industry networks and associations (26 submitters)
- other advocacy networks (18 submitters)
- private companies (eight submitters)
- organic networks and association (six submitters)
- Crown Research Institutes (five submitters).

### Attitude towards genetic modification

An assessment was made of each submitter’s overall attitude towards genetic modification based on comments throughout each submitter’s full submission. The majority of submitters with Interested Person status were assessed as being in support of the use of genetic modification technology. Opinion was distributed as follows:

- ‘strongly for’: 49 submitters
- ‘tends to be for’: 13 submitters
- ‘neither for nor against’: 10 submitters
- ‘tends to be against’: 12 submitters
- ‘strongly against’: 20 submitters
- missing/no position: one submitter.

This information is presented in Figure 1.

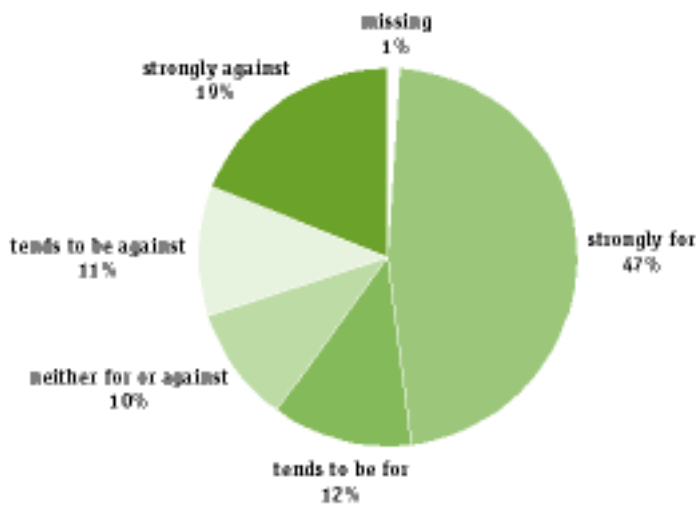
### Stance of Interested Persons on differing uses of genetic modification

An assessment was also made from each submitter’s full submission as to the circumstances where each submitter “approved” or “disapproved” of the use of genetic modification techniques. Eight broad categories of “support” and seven of “opposition” were recorded.

Uses of genetic modification on which submitters were most likely to feel positive were contained laboratory research and specified medical issues. Submitters were most concerned about uses that involved release of viable organisms into the environment, food production or the transfer of genetic material between “unlike” species (in particular, the transfer of human genetic material into plants or animals).

Submitters were likely to feel positive about using genetic modification if it was used for:

- contained laboratory research (29 submitters)



**Fig 1                    Overall stance of Interested Persons on genetic modification**

- specified medical uses (19 submitters)
- non-specified medical uses (15 submitters)
- environmental protection (16 submitters)
- increased food production (nine submitters)
- increased food quality (eight submitters)
- non-viable genetically modified material only (one submitter)
- non-heritable genetic modification (one submitter).

Submitters were most concerned about the use of genetic modification techniques if it:

- involved transfer of genetic material between “unlike” species (12 submitters)
- involved the transfer of human genetic material into plants or animals (11 submitters)
- involved the production of genetically modified animals for “bio-factories” (four submitters)
- involved the release of viable organisms in the environment (21 submitters)
- was for food production (15 submitters)
- involved introducing inheritable genetic changes in humans (two submitters)
- privatised genetic material (12 submitters).