

Seralini study another scientific outlier meant only as anti-GMO fodder

Seralini, author of the infamous study alleging to show increased rates of tumors in rats fed GM food, the one that was [retracted by the journal](#) and then later [republished in a separate journal](#), has published [another controversial study](#).

The study, published in PLOSone, looks at the feed that is fed to lab rodents, the kinds used in GM research. The implication of the study is that all prior research looking at GMO and pesticide toxicity is now called into question because the control rodents would also have been fed a diet that contains some GMO, pesticides, and also heavy metal contaminants. The concept here is valid – control groups need to be proper controls. If you are testing the effects of a pesticide on rats, and the control rats are also getting the pesticide in their food, then the comparison is compromised.

Although the logic of their paper is sound, the devil is always in the details. How much pesticides and other contaminants did they find? They found 1-6 pesticides out of the 262 they tested for in each feed studied. This does not sound impressive. Further, they did not demonstrate that the small amounts detected were biologically relevant. The dose makes the toxin, and trace contaminants are almost ubiquitous, but are well below biologically active levels.

Even putting his reputation aside, the quality of this latest study, as published, has major flaws and is simply not compelling. That will not stop anti-GMO activists from [exploiting it to dismiss GMO safety studies](#), which seems to be the intent.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [The New Seralini Study](#)