

## Italian anti-GMO researcher may have engaged in improprieties

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.**

Papers [by Professor Federico Infascelli at the University of Naples] that describe harmful effects to animals fed genetically modified (GM) crops are under scrutiny for alleged data manipulation. The leaked findings of an ongoing investigation at the University of Naples in Italy suggest that images in the papers may have been intentionally altered. The leader of the lab that carried out the work there says that there is no substance to this claim.

The papers' findings run counter to those of numerous safety tests carried out by food and drug agencies around the world, which indicate that there are no dangers associated with eating GM food. But the work has been widely cited on anti-GM websites — and results of the experiments that the papers describe were referenced in an Italian Senate....

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Following the Senate hearing, [Italian senator [Elena Cattaneo](#), a neuroscientist at the University of Milan] took a closer look at three paper...

She then commissioned Enrico Bucci, head of the biomedical services and information consultancy firm BioDigitalValley in Aosta, Italy to carry out a forensic analysis of all three papers...

On 14 January, Bucci [posted online his analysis](#) of the papers under investigation, as well as of four more papers on GM feed co-authored by Infascelli, and a PhD thesis from Infascelli's lab. The analysis claims evidence for image manipulation in all eight papers. Bucci has informed the rector and Infascelli of his findings.

Since Cattaneo sent her findings to the journals concerned, one of the three papers under investigation has been retracted: last month, the 2013 *Food and Nutrition Sciences* paper<sup>2</sup> was retracted, with a citation of "self-plagiarism". However, the journal noted that the results were still valid and that it considered the issues an "honest error".

**Read full, original post:** [Italian papers on genetically modified crops under investigation](#)

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