

South Korean consumer groups, politicians call for mandatory GMO labeling

Costco and Burger King have been found to have brought the largest amounts of processed food products containing genetically modified organisms (GMOs) to the country, drawing protest from consumer groups.

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Last year alone, Asia's fourth-largest economy bought a total of 2.2 million tons of snacks, frozen foods and other products containing GMOs from the United States and other agricultural exporters, according to the ministry.

Despite the surging imports, Korean consumers are not aware whether foreign food items that they consume have genetically engineered ingredients... [Rep. Kim Hyun-kwon of the main opposition Minjoo Party of Korea (MPK)] said.

"Korean consumers ... have no way to find out whether food items they buy at stores or foods that they eat at restaurants contain GMOs," the lawmaker said. "I will do whatever it takes to ... force food companies and retailers to clearly stipulate whether products they make or sell include GMOs."

Under the Food Sanitation Act, companies are required to list food items containing GMOs only when they are one of the top five ingredients...

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Consumer groups here have long been calling on the government to tighten oversight of GMO food products, citing potential health risks.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Costco hit for importing GMO foods](#)