



## BEAN IMPROVEMENT COOPERATIVE

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 8, 2008

TO: U.S. Dry Bean Council, Bean Traders, Shippers, Cannery and Processors

FROM: J. D. Kelly, President of Bean Improvement Cooperative

RE: Genetic Modification-GM in Dry Beans and Snap Beans

In my capacity as President of the Bean Improvement Cooperative (BIC) and bean breeder/geneticist at Michigan State University, I wish to state the following.

All commercial varieties of dry and snap beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) that includes the commercial dry bean classes of Navy, Pinto, Great Northern, Red Kidney including Dark Red, Light Red and White Kidney, Cranberry, Black, Pink, Small Reds and miscellaneous classes such as Yellow-eye, Alubia, Jacob's Cattle, Soldier, Anasazi; and garden beans including snap, blue-lake, wax, pole, half-runner pod types are NOT Genetically-Modified Organisms (GMO) or derivatives of genetically-modified origin. Beans are a recalcitrant species (unlike corn, tomatoes or soybeans) and have not been amenable to genetic engineering or modification from other genetic sources. No Genetically Modified-GM or transgenic beans have been generated commercially in the United States, so currently all commercial dry bean classes grown in the United States are not genetically modified.

This statement is supported by previous information in an article that was published in Bean Improvement Cooperative (BIC) based on a survey of bean breeders and geneticists in the U.S that was recently updated by the author. Myers, J., and M. Brick. 2001. Status of Genetically Modified (GM) Varieties in Common Bean in the U.S. Report from the W-150 Regional Project Technical Committee February 19, 2001. Published in the Annual Report of the Bean Improvement Cooperative 44:7-8.

Sincerely,

James D. Kelly  
President