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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/571/2021_2022_2009_E5_B9_B4_E8_80_83_c73_571114.htm TEXT TWENTY European Union environmental officials have determined that two kinds of genetically modified corn could harm butterflies, affect food chains and disturb life in rivers and streams, and they have proposed a ban on the sale of the seeds, which are made by DuPont Pioneer, Dow Agrosiences and Syngenta. The preliminary decisions are circulating within the European Commission, which has the final say. Some officials there are skeptical of a ban that would upset the powerful biotechnology industry and could exacerbate tensions with important trading partners like the United States. The seeds are not available on the European market for cultivation. In the decisions, the environment commissioner, Stavros Dimas, contends that the genetically modified corn, or maize could affect certain butterfly species, specifically the monarch, and other beneficial insects. For instance, research this year indicates that larvae of the monarch butterfly exposed to the genetically modified corn ' ' behave differently than other larvae. ' ' In the decision concerning the corn seeds produced by Dow and Pioneer, Mr. Dimas calls ' ' potential damage on the environment irreversible. ' ' In the decision on Syngenta ' s corn, he says that ' ' the level of risk generated by the cultivation of this product for the environment is unacceptable. ' ' A decision by the European Union to bar cultivation of the genetically modified crops would be the first of its kind in the trade bloc, and would intensify

the continuing battle over genetically modified corn. Banning the applications for corn crops also would mark a bold new step for European environmental authorities, who are already aggressively pursuing regulations on emissions from cars and aircraft, setting it at odds with the United States and angering industries. ' ' These products have been grown in the U.S. and other countries for years, ' ' said Stephen Norton, a spokesman for the United States trade representative. ' ' We are not aware of any other case when a product has been rejected after having been reviewed and determined safe ' ' by European food safety authorities, he said. Barbara Helfferich, a spokeswoman for Mr. Dimas, declined to comment on the specifics of the procedure because commissioners had not yet made a final decision. But she said that the European Union was within its rights to make decisions based on the ' ' precautionary principle ' ' even when scientists had found no definitive evidence proving products can cause harm. She said that the decisions by Mr. Dimas could go before the commission within a few weeks, but she said that no date had been set. In the decisions, Mr. Dimas cited recent research showing that consumption of genetically modified ' ' corn byproducts reduced growth and increased mortality of nontarget stream insects ' ' and that these insects ' ' are important prey for aquatic and riparian predators ' ' and that this could have ' ' unexpected ecosystem-scale consequences. ' ' Although still preliminary, his decisions could drastically tilt the policy against future approvals of genetically modified crops, said Nathalie Moll, a spokeswoman for Europabio,

an industry group with 80 members including Syngenta, Pioneer and Dow. Europabio says that the crops grown using the genetically modified corn are already imported into several European countries, including France and Germany, where they are used to feed animals like cows and chickens. Rob Gianfranceschi, spokesman at the United States mission to the European Union in Brussels, said it was too early to comment on a decision that had not yet been formalized. But he made clear that the United States remained frustrated with European policies on genetically modified crops.

1. The preliminary decisions are made by _____. [A] DuPont Pioneer, Dow Agrosiences and Syngenta [B] European Union environmental officials [C] European Commission [D] Stavros Dimas

2. To the decisions, the European Commission officials' attitudes are _____. [A] skeptical [B] controversial [C] contradictory [D] divergent

3. About the decisions, which one of the following statements is TRUE? [A] The decisions aims to put a ban the sale of the seeds of genetically modified corn due to political and biological concerns. [B] The decisions are warmly embraced by all EU members but bitterly rejected by their trade partners. [C] The decisions could probably be made even if no definitive evidence proving the products harmful is found. [D] there is high possibility that the decisions would be approved by the European Commission.

4. Mr. Dimas cited many researches on the genetically modified corn in his decision in order to _____. [A] dispel some officials' doubt on his decisions [B] enhance the strength of his decision-making [C] demonstrate the latest achievement of his decision [D] assure that

they can be presented before the commission with solid evidence 5.

The word "tilt" (Line 1, Paragraph 6) most probably means_____.

[A] incline [B] affect [C] induce [D] evoke 文章剖析：这篇文章

介绍了联合国环境官员就转基因食品提出的决议的一些情况

。第一段介绍该决议目前在欧洲委员会中流传；第二段是环境

专员具体在其决议中的观点；第三段讲述如果该决议落实

将会是首例；第四段是美国贸易代表发言人的观点；第五段

讲述Dimas先生决议的一些情况；第六段、第七段是其他人和

机构的一些观点。 词汇注释：genetically adv. 基因地

exacerbate v. 恶化，使加剧 monarch n. 黑脉金斑蝶 larvae n. 幼

虫 aquatic adj. 水生的 riparian adj. 河边的，水滨的百考试题论

坛 predator n. 掠夺者，捕食其他动物的动物 难句突破：(1)

European Union environmental officials have determined that two

kinds of genetically modified corn could harm butterflies, affect food

chains and disturb life in rivers and streams, and they have proposed

a ban on the sale of the seeds, which are made by DuPont Pioneer,

Dow Agrosiences and Syngenta. [主体句式] EU environmental

officials have determined that...and they have proposed... [结构分

析] 该句是一个并列结构的复杂句。前一个分句带有宾语从句

，宾语从句的谓语是三个并列结构的动词；后一个分句中

，which 引导的非限定性定语从句是用来修饰the seeds的。来

源:百考试题网 (2) In the decisions, Mr. Dimas cited recent

research showing that consumption of genetically modified '

' corn byproducts reduced growth and increased mortality of

nontarget stream insects ' ' and that these insects ' ' are

important prey for aquatic and riparian predators ' ' and that this

could have ' ' unexpected ecosystem-scale consequences. ' ' [主体句式] Mr. Dimas cited recent research... [句子结构] 该句是一个简单句，宾语research后面的现代分词是它的定语，该现代分词结构看似复杂，其实是三个并列的that引导的从句构成的。 [句子译文] 在这些决定中，Dimas引用了最近的一些研究，这些研究表明转基因"谷物副产品"消费"抑制生长，增加nontarget昆虫死亡率"，而且这些昆虫"是水生动物重要的食物"，因此这可能有"未预料到的生态系统规模的后果"。

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