



Abstracts

Sixth Food Choice Conference

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The abstracts of plenary lectures, parallel session talks and displayed posters are printed in alphabetical order of authors within the broad themes of the Conference. Presenting authors are italicised.

Attitudes Towards Genetic Engineering of Food by German Consumers.
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German consumers are very critical about genetically engineered food. This was observed already before such foods were available. Recent information campaigns have led to a controversial discussion. In two representative surveys (in 1993 and 1994; $N=2500$) data were collected on consumer attitudes towards nutrition, technology in general and genetic engineering in particular; knowledge, information sources and possible intention to buy novel food. In regular annual representative surveys (the first in 1992) a list of possible risks involved in nutrition, including genetically engineered food, was presented and the persons were asked to identify the risks according to the assumed danger to health. The results reveal an increase of negative attitudes; but also possibilities of acceptance by profound and open information about novel food. Creating positive attitudes towards novel food seems easier in the case of food of plant than of animal origin.