The regulation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) continues to generate controversy. On the one hand, they are actively promoted by the biotechnology industry as vital to ensuring food security. Yet, on the other hand, consumer resistance persists, not least in the European Union, and such lack of confidence extends not just to GM food itself but also to the regulatory regime, where legal issues are inextricably linked with economics and politics.

This edited collection provides a novel contribution to the ongoing debate, recognizing that the legislative environment is complicated by forces as varied as national public opinion and world trade commitments. The book is divided into four parts. The first of these addresses the influence in this context of civil society, economic imperatives, and differing approaches to risk. The second part is directed to the measures that have been implemented in the European Union, considering multi-level governance, wider aspects of food law, coexistence with conventional and organic crops, and environmental liability. The third part is more overtly comparative in focus, with chapters covering the diverse regimes implemented in Africa, North America, and South America. The book concludes with chapters on world trade and international considerations, including analysis of the Biotech case.

CONTENTS

Introduction, Michael Cardwell

I. The Public, Economics, and Risk

1. Genetically Modified Organisms and the Public: Participation, Preferences, and Protest, Luc Bodiguel and Michael Cardwell

2. The Importance and Limits of Cost-Benefit Analysis in the Regulation of Genetically Modified Organisms, Christophe Chartier and Egizio Valeschini

3. Genetically Modified Organisms and Risk, Karen Morrow

II. The European Union

4. The European Union Regulatory Regime for Genetically Modified Organisms and its Integration into Community Food Law and Policy, Marine Friant-Perrot

5. Multi-level Governance of Genetically Modified Organisms in the European Union: Ambiguity and Hierarchy, Maria Lee


8. Implementing the Community Environmental Liability Directive: Genetically Modified Organisms and the Problem of Unknown Risk, Christopher Rodgers

III. Regulation Beyond the European Union

9. Genetically Modified Organisms in Africa: Regulating a Threat or an Opportunity?, Fikremarkos Merso Birhanu

10. The Coexistence of Genetically Modified and Non-genetically Modified Agriculture in Canada: A Courtroom Drama, Jane Matthews Glenn

11. Genetically Modified Organisms in MERCOSUR, Rosario Silva Gilli


IV. International Implications

13. The EC-Biotech Decision: Another Missed Opportunity?, Joseph McMahon

14. The Regulation of Genetically Modified Organisms and International Law: A Call for Generality, Duncan French

Conclusion, Luc Bodiguel

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