

REMARKS

U.S. SOY for a growing world



Biotechnology

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KEY POINTS

- Since its inception in 1996, biotechnology has been a key component of U.S. soybean farmers' ability to produce a healthy, affordable protein source in a sustainable manner.
 - Today, more than 90% of U.S. soybeans are raised with seeds enhanced through biotechnology
 - Biotech is a key component of U.S. soybean farmers' ability to produce a healthy, affordable protein source in a sustainable manner
 - About 1 billion acres of U.S. farmland have been planted with biotech crops since 1996
 - The U.S. government has established a rigorous approval process that includes the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that GMOs are safe
 - Approval process lasts about 13 years and costs an average of \$136 million to bring the new crop to market - another way that the U.S. ensures these crops are safe
 - An Iowa State University study shows that without biotechnology, global food prices would be nearly 10% higher for soybeans
- Over 20 trillion meals containing biotech have been served with no side effects.
 - In the [*Journal of Animal Science*](#), the University of California–Davis recently released the most comprehensive study of GMOs and food ever conducted
 - Reviewed 29 years of livestock productivity and health data from both before and after the introduction of genetically engineered animal feed
 - Field data represented more than 100 billion animals covering a period before 1996 when animal feed was 100% non-GMO, and after its introduction when it jumped to 90% plusStudy proved that GM feed is safe and nutritionally equivalent to non-GMO feed with no indication of any unusual trends in the health of animals since 1996 when GMO crops were first harvested

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Lisa Pine Humphreys at lpine@ussec.org

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS ON CROP BIOTECHNOLOGY SAFETY



1 THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (Chicago)

"There is no scientific justification for special labeling of genetically modified foods. Bioengineered foods have been consumed for close to 20 years, and during that time, no overt consequences on human health have been reported and/or substantiated in the peer-reviewed literature."

2 THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE (Washington, D.C.)

"The science is quite clear: crop improvement by the modern molecular techniques of biotechnology is safe."

3 THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (Washington, D.C.)

"To date more than 98 million acres of genetically modified crops have been grown worldwide. No evidence of human health problems associated with the ingestion of these crops or resulting food products have been identified."

4 FOOD STANDARDS AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND (Australia & New Zealand)

"Gene technology has not been shown to introduce any new or altered hazards into the food supply, therefore the potential for long term risks associated with GM foods is considered to be no different to that for conventional foods already in the food supply."

5 THE FRENCH ACADEMY OF SCIENCE (France)

"All criticisms against GMOs can be largely rejected on strictly scientific criteria."

6 THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (United Kingdom)

"Foods derived from GM crops have been consumed by hundreds of millions of people across the world for more than 15 years, with no reported ill effects (or legal cases related to human health), despite many of the consumers coming from that most litigious of countries, the USA."

7 THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION (Belgium)

"The main conclusion to be drawn from the efforts of more than 130 research projects, covering a period of more than 25 years of research, and involving more than 500 independent research groups, is that biotechnology, and in particular GMOs, are no more risky than conventional plant breeding technologies."

8 THE UNION OF GERMAN ACADEMICS OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES (Germany)

"In consuming food derived from GM plants approved in the EU and in the USA, the risk is in no way higher than in the consumption of food from conventionally grown plants. On the contrary, in some cases food from GM plants appears to be superior in respect to health."

9 SEVEN OF THE WORLD'S ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES (Brazil, China, India, Mexico, the Third World Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society, and the National Academy of Sciences of the U.S.)

"Foods can be produced through the use of GM technology that are more nutritious, stable in storage and in principle, health promoting—bringing benefits to consumers in both industrialized and developing nations."

10 WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (Switzerland)

"No effects on human health have been shown as a result of the consumption of GM foods by the general population in the countries where they have been approved."



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