

Late Breaking Information for our Dealers

JANUARY 4, 2012

USDA Deregulates Monsanto's First-Generation Drought-Tolerant Trait for Corn

Background: Monsanto has received deregulation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for MON 87460, the company's first-generation drought-tolerant trait for corn, concluding the U.S. federal regulatory process. Monsanto plans to conduct on-farm trials in 2012 to give farmers experience with the product, while generating data to help inform the company's commercial decisions. Drought-tolerant corn is projected to be introduced as part of an overall system that would offer farmers improved genetics, agronomic practices and the drought trait. This product is designed to help farmers mitigate the risk of yield loss when experiencing drought stress, primarily in areas of annual drought stress, which in the United States historically has been the Western Great Plains region. For the 2012 on-farm trials, Monsanto plans to have Genuity® VT Triple PRO® and Genuity® VT Double PRO® technology serve as the agronomic trait platform to be used with the drought-tolerant trait. Import approvals in key corn import markets with functioning regulatory systems are in progress. The drought-tolerant trait is part of Monsanto's Yield and Stress collaboration in plant biotechnology with Germany-based BASF. The collaboration is aimed at developing higher-yielding crops and crops more tolerant to adverse environmental conditions, such as drought.

Resources and Action: Please use the following key messages to support your conversations with farmers, customers and other key stakeholders. View the Monsanto press release online by [clicking here](#) .

The first-generation drought-tolerant biotechnology trait is designed to be used as part of a system that can help farmers manage risk by helping to mitigate the effects of drought stress.

- Our drought-tolerant corn is projected to be introduced as part of an overall system that includes the trait, improved genetics and agronomic improvements to reduce yield loss. It is designed to provide the corn plant with a better opportunity to maintain its yield potential when experiencing drought stress.
- We plan to conduct on-farm trials in 2012 to give farmers experience with the product, while generating data to help inform our commercial decisions.
- Consistent with our commitment to the Biotechnology Industry Organization's Excellence Through Stewardship Program, Monsanto intends to obtain import approvals from all key corn import markets with functioning regulatory systems prior to commercial planting of MON 87460.

If you have additional questions about the announcement, please contact [Bill Reeves](#) (Corn Regulatory Affairs), [Mark Edge](#) (Drought/Water Utilization Lead) or [Danielle Stuart](#) (Public Affairs Manager).