

CHINA: BECOMING A GLOBAL LEADER IN TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Through More Timely Import Approvals of Biotech Products

As the world's largest exporter and one of its largest importers, China plays a major role in the interconnected global economy. China has long been a supporter of plant biotechnology and is one of the "founder biotech crop countries" that has cultivated biotech cotton since the 1990s. However, delays in China's import approvals have significant repercussions in terms of economic growth, food security, and sustainability both in China and around the globe.

Significant domestic impact from China's delayed import approvals

As summarized below, Informa Consulting recently conducted analysis of resulting economic hardships that China has experienced over the past five years due to its delayed import approvals.

 IMPACTS FOR CHINA'S DOMESTIC CROPS	ESTIMATED LOSSES resulting from China's import approval delays, 2011-2016	POTENTIAL VALUE TO GAIN if China implements more timely and predictable biotech import approvals, 2017-2022 (projected)
 Corn	Was restricted by over 2.5 million MT	Could increase by 45,000 MT
 Soybean	Was restricted by over 700,000 MT	Could increase by 7 million MT
 Canola	Data unavailable	Could increase by 1.7 million MT



Biotech investment fits China's innovation-forward attitude

China has approved 60 biotech crop events for food and feed use and cultivation since 1994, and made government investments of about US\$3.8 billion in domestic biotechnology since 2008. It's logical that China should have a pro-biotech regulatory framework.



Benefits of biotech cotton grown in China

- **2.92 million** hectares planted in 2016
- **US\$18.6 billion** increase in farm income (1997-2015)
- **10% increase** in yield
- **60% decrease** in pesticide application

More timely biotech imports approvals would benefit China in many aspects

<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <h4 style="margin: 0;">Food security</h4> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; margin-top: 10px;">By optimizing overseas agricultural investments and maintaining a stable food supply for its population of 1.4 billion</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <h4 style="margin: 0;">Sustainable technologies</h4> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; margin-top: 10px;">By elevating China's leadership position in helping farmers adopt more sustainable agricultural practices</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <h4 style="margin: 0;">Global trade leadership</h4> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; margin-top: 10px;">By helping China serve as a pro-trade, innovation-friendly role model for countries in southeast Asia</p>
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Assess the full Informa report:
 The Impact of Delays in Chinese Approvals of Biotech Crops
<https://croplife.org/plant-biotechnology/regulatory-2/informa-report>