

CropLife International Supports U.S. Trade Representative Request for Dispute Settlement Consultations With Mexico

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CropLife International supports the action taken today by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to escalate its dispute with Mexico over genetically modified U.S. corn as it requests dispute settlement consultations under the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA) free-trade agreement.

CropLife International recognizes the work of key trading partners, including the United States and Canada, to resolve trade agreement issues around the import of genetically modified corn by Mexico, and efforts to encourage Mexico to adhere to a science-based, rules-based trading system for agriculture products. However, past technical consultations have not resolved the issue and additional consultations under Article 34.1 are necessary to hold Mexico to its commitments under the USMCA and to provide a clear timeline and framework to resolve this issue.

CropLife International agrees with the US government’s position that Mexico’s current agricultural biotechnology policies are not based on science- and risk-based biotechnology policies compliant with its USMCA commitments.

We expect that these additional consultations will lead to a quick resolution of this issue and a return to a science-based, transparent, and predictable regulatory pathway for agricultural innovations in Mexico. We will continue to support both the US and Canadian governments in their ongoing efforts to ensure Mexicans have access to innovations necessary to address their ongoing food security challenges.

For more information, please contact Sarah.Lukie@CropLife.org

About CropLife International: As a global voice and leading advocate for the plant science industry, we champion innovative technologies that help farmers grow more food on less land sustainably. We represent six of the world’s leading multinational R&D companies in the plant science sector by protecting intellectual property to foster a culture of innovation; advocating for trade and regulatory policies that facilitate access to new technologies; and ensuring the responsible and effective use of plant science innovations.