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## Turkey

**Post:** Ankara

### Association Submits Applications for 38 Biotech Traits

**Report Categories:**

Biotechnology - GE Plants and Animals  
Biotechnology and Other New Production  
Technologies  
Cotton and Products  
Oilseeds and Products  
Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

On May 11, 2015, The Turkish Poultry Meat Producers and Breeders Association (Besd-Bir) submitted dossiers to the Biosafety Board to request approval for 38 genetically engineered traits for feed use only. The Board has accepted the applications and the authorization procedure is pending.

**General Information:**

On May 11, 2015, FAS Ankara learned that Turkish Poultry Meat Producers and Breeders Association (Besd-Bir) submitted dossiers to the Biosafety Board for the approval request of 38 traits (9 soybean, 15 corn, 4 canola and 10 cotton) for feed use. The Board has accepted the applications and established the scientific and socio-economic committees. These committees have already started to perform risk assessment and socio-economic assessment. Therefore, authorization procedure is pending.

Due to insufficient domestic production and increasing demand, Turkey imports significant quantities of feed for its poultry and livestock sectors. The Turkish Biosafety Board approved 16 corn events and 3 soybean events in 2011.

On July 25, 2011, the Biosafety Board advised the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MinFAL) of the implementation of the rules set by the Commission Regulation (EU) No 619/2011 of 24 June 2011 “laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the official control of feed as regards presence of genetically modified material for which an authorization procedure is pending or the authorization of which has expired” in the official controls. Right after the new applications, MinFAL directed the Provincial Directorates, which perform the official controls, to implement the rules of the Commission Regulation (EU) No: 619/2011 for the new applications since the authorization procedures are pending. This legislation allows trace amounts of unapproved biotech content in feed up to a “technical zero” level of 0.1 percent.