

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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GAIN Report Number: MX1070

Mexico

Post: Mexico

2011 Biotech Corn Permits Being Reviewed

Report Categories:

Biotechnology

Biotechnology and Other New Production

Technologies

Grain and Feed

Agriculture in the News

Agriculture in the Economy

Planting Seeds

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Report Highlights:

The Government of Mexico (GOM) continues to grant environmental testing permits to developers of genetically modified corn and other crops (see 2011 GAIN Report [MX1056](#) Biotechnology Annual). Mexico granted permission for pilot testing of genetically modified corn last year in Tamaulipas, but the permit receiver chose not to exercise the test. No permits for pilot testing, the subsequent stage in the approval process, have been approved, yet, this year.

General Information:

On September 19, 2011, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food's (SAGARPA) National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA) published [updated information](#) on the status of 2011 requests for experimental as well as pilot testing of genetically modified corn. The publication indicated that 1.29 hectares of experimental planting of genetically modified corn were approved during the January 20 to February 22, period. Experimental testing permits were issued for 9 applications for a number of different genetic events across the Mexican states of Tamaulipas, Nayarit, and Sonora. However, two requests for pilot testing (Chihuahua and Coahuila) were denied. There are 46 additional applications (38 for experimental testing and 8 for pilot testing) under risk analysis. The GOM continues permitting only a fraction of the requested area for planting and conducting the tests.

Information from SAGARPA SENASICA on 2010 and 2009 requests and approvals for environmental and pilot testing of biotech corn is available from the SENASICA [website](#).

For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

FAS/Mexico YouTube Channel: Catch the latest videos of FAS Mexico at work <http://www.youtube.com/user/ATOMexicoCity>

Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
MX1056	2011 Biotech Annual: Mexico Authorizes First Commercial Biotech Cultivation	7/15/2011
MX1054	June Cotton Update	6/30/2011
MX1102	2010 Biotech Corn Permits Issued	1/26/2011
MX0044	2010 Biotech Annual: Mexican Government Continues to Support Biotech Crops	7/14/2010

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.

