

Workshop on Regulating Agricultural Biotechnology: Indian and International perspectives



**Venue: National Institute of Plant Health Management,
Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad
27-30, October, 2014**

OBJECTIVE

The main purpose of the workshop is to provide insights of National and International Biotechnology and quarantine regulations, scientific risk assessment, principles and practices in terms of food and environmental issues, conduct of field trials, monitoring and compliance of regulation.

KEY RESOURCE PERSONS

An esteemed group of Indian and International experts and regulators from the USDA's Biotechnology Regulatory Service, Cornell University, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) and NIPHM will facilitate the workshop.

REGISTRATION: INR-20,000/- (includes lunch and high tea) for private industry

ORGANIZERS

Department of Biotechnology
National Institute of Plant Health Management
United States Department of Agriculture

CONTACT

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Workshop on 'Regulating Agricultural Biotechnology: Indian and International perspectives' from October 27th -30th, 2014 reg.

Background information:

Genetic engineering (GE) technology is one of the most promising of all the life sciences technologies. Wide range of products derived from GE technology have been developed and commercialized globally in healthcare, agriculture and for industrial & environmental applications. The global experience of more than 30 years on the usage of GE crops particularly corn, canola, soyabean and cotton either as a whole or as products derived from them has not resulted any safety concerns.

Genetically engineered insect resistant cotton (Bt cotton) is the only crop approved in India for commercial cultivation. Currently, 16 GE crops spanning the trait for insect resistance, drought and salinity tolerance, enhanced nutrient contents, increased shelf-life etc., are under various stages of regulatory pipeline in India.

Rules for the manufacture, use/import/export and storage of hazardous microorganisms/ genetically engineered organisms or cells, 1989 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 forms the basis for regulations of GE products pertaining to safety to human, animal and environment health. A three tier mechanism comprising Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs), which operates directly from the premises of the institution and ensures on-site assessment and monitoring of adherence to the biosafety guidelines with overall oversight of the regulatory process, at the institutional level; the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) functioning from the Department of Biotechnology; and the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) in the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), has been established for evaluation, approval and monitoring of safety aspects associated with handling of GE crops leading to their commercial release.

The transgenic crop developers have to conduct field trials to demonstrate biosafety of transgenic crops in terms of environmental safety. The different stakeholders involved in GM crop should have essential knowledge regarding biosafety regulations, guidelines and protocol involved in evaluating associated Biosafety risks during field trials of GM crops.

Workshop details:

National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), an autonomous body under Ministry of Agriculture, GOI is a nodal centre for capacity building in the area of Plant Quarantine, Plant Biosecurity, Pest Risk Analysis and Plant Health Management. In order to strengthen the human resource involved in Biotechnology Regulations, NIPHM and Department of Biotechnology, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is organizing a four-day workshop on **‘Regulating Agricultural Biotechnology: Indian and International perspectives’ during 27th -30th October, 2014 at NIPHM, Hyderabad**. The workshop broadly covers legal framework of biotechnology regulations, scientific risk assessment principles and practices in terms of food and environmental issues, conduct of field trials, monitoring and compliance of regulations. An esteemed group of Indian and International experts and regulators from the USDA’s Biotechnology Regulatory Service, Cornell University, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), and NIPHM will facilitate and conduct the workshop. The workshop will enable the participants to get exposure to biosafety regulations and regulatory framework related to GMOs/LMOs, guidelines and protocols to be followed during field trial of GMOs.

The Private Industry is one of the important stakeholders in the Agricultural Biotechnology/ GM crops, 20 slots are open for private industry to participate in the workshop. The registration fee is Rs. 20,000/- (includes lunch and high tea). Nominations in the prescribed format may be forwarded to **The Director, Plant Biosecurity**, on or before **10th October, 2014**. Accommodation facility is available on payment basis (per day per person) as per the below tariff:

Type of accommodation	Single occupancy	Twin Sharing
Executive rooms	Rs. 3000	Rs. 2000
Regular rooms	Rs. 1075	Rs. 750

The course fee and accommodation charges may be paid through demand draft drawn in favour of **NIPHM payable at Hyderabad**. The nominations may be submitted by post to **The Director, Plant Biosecurity, NIPHM, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500 030** or over email at niphm@nic.in or dirpqpniphm-ap@nic.in or over fax: 040-24015346. Please find attached a background note of the workshop along with complete details.