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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Indonesia

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New Indonesia Crops Decree Accelerates the Ag Biotech Adoption

Report Categories:

Biotechnology

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Report Highlights:

The Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture recently released Decree No. 61/2011 concerning the procedures for testing, evaluating, releasing, and withdrawing of transgenic crop varieties. Post expects that this will accelerate the adoption of agriculture biotechnology in Indonesia.

General Information:

On October 5, 2011 the Ministry of Agriculture issued Regulation No. 61/Permentan/OT.140/10/2011 on the testing, evaluating, releasing, and withdrawing of crop varieties. This new regulation has replaced Ministry of Agriculture Regulation No. 37/2006 and Ministry of Agriculture Regulation No. 65/2008 on a similar subject. This new regulation regulates the procedures on testing, evaluating, releasing, and withdrawing of crop varieties, as well as provides the crop varieties classifications, to include non-transgenic crops and transgenic crops.

The issuance of this regulation should expedite the licensing process, the environmental safety approval processes, and the field trials for transgenic products. Under this regulation, the limited field trial for the transgenic environmental safety assessment can be conducted in parallel with the adaptation trial for the plant variety release assessment. Thus, it can potentially save two crop planting cycles. In addition, if the transgenic product comes from a conventional hybrid that has already obtained the plant variety release approval, that product will not require multi-location field trials. It only needs a comparison trial data with the conventional one, and this comparison trial data is needed from only one location field trial from one planting period.

This new regulation will become effective April 2012. The application of plant variety release approval that is submitted prior to the issuance of this regulation should follow the Minister of Agriculture Regulation No. 37/2006 and the Minister of Agriculture Regulation No. 65/2008 for the adaptation and/or the observation trials.

The English version of this regulation can be viewed at:

<http://www.usdaindonesia.org/news/read/2011/11/14/145047/The.Indonesia.Ministry.of>