Paraguay

Paraguay, the world’s fifth largest exporter of soybean, has successfully grown biotech soybean for 12 years since 2004. In 2016, 96% of the total national soybean area is biotech.

In 2016, Paraguay planted 3.52 million hectares of biotech soybean, maize, and cotton.

Of the 3.52 million hectares of biotech crops planted in Paraguay in 2016, 3.21 million hectares were biotech soybean, 310,000 hectares were biotech maize, and 10,000 hectares were biotech cotton.

Of the total national soybean area of 3.33 million hectares in Paraguay in 2016, 3.21 million hectares were biotech, including up to 550,000 of stacked Bt/HT product.

Economic gains over the period 2004 to 2015 were estimated at US$1.2 billion and the benefits for 2015 alone at US$117 million.

**BIOTECH CROP APPROVALS AND ADOPTION**

Since 2004, a total of 20 events were approved for food, feed, and cultivation in Paraguay. These include 20 cotton events, 14 maize, and 3 soybean events. There were no new approvals in 2016.

In 2016, Paraguay planted a total of 710,000 hectares of maize of which ~50% was biotech. Bt cotton, which was approved for commercial production in the country in October 2011, had a 100% adoption in 2016 with 10,000 hectares. Intacta, a new stacked HT/IT soybean, approved in 2013, increased from ~170,000 in 2014 to 550,000 hectares in 2016.

**SOURCE**