

# **Need for Harmonization: Lessons from Plant Biotechnology**

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# Purpose of Regulations

- **Promote development**
  - **Organization of na activity/sector**
  - **Manage Risks/Address concerns**
    - Predictability
    - Legal certainty
    - Cost reduction
    - Increased efficiency and competitiveness
- **Legal basis and Policy**

# International/Regional Harmonization

- **Benefits**

- Exchange or transfer of knowledge
- Financial Incentives
- Reducing Barriers to Trade
- Global development

# Internacional/Regional Harmonization

- **Difficulties**

- Distinct technological and economic levels
- Asymmetric regulatory framework
- Distinct domestic and geopolitical interests



Cartagena  
Protocol on  
Biosafety



# Cartagena Protocol

Convention of Biological Diversity



# Cartagena Protocol – Key points

- **Transboundary movement** (import and export)
  - **Advanced Informed Agreement** – previously to any GMO movement
  - **Risk Assessment**
  - **Documentation and Identification** (grains, seeds, animals, research material)
  - **Cooperation**
- 
- A large cargo ship named 'ARYA SHREE' is docked at a port. The ship is dark-colored with the name 'ARYA SHREE' visible on its side. Several large cranes are positioned along the dock, and a person is standing on the pier in the foreground. The background shows a body of water and distant hills under a clear sky.



- 1999. Ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology
- **CAC/GL 44-2003 - Principles for the Risk Analysis of Foods Derived from Modern Biotechnology**
- CAC/GL 45-2003 Guideline for the Conduct of Food Safety Assessment of Foods Derived from Recombinant-DNA Plants
- **CAC/GL 68-2008 Guideline for the Conduct of Food Safety Assessment of Foods Derived from Recombinant-DNA Animals**
- Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)



# **Working Group on Harmonization of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology**

## **Consensus Documents**

**(Reference Materials)**

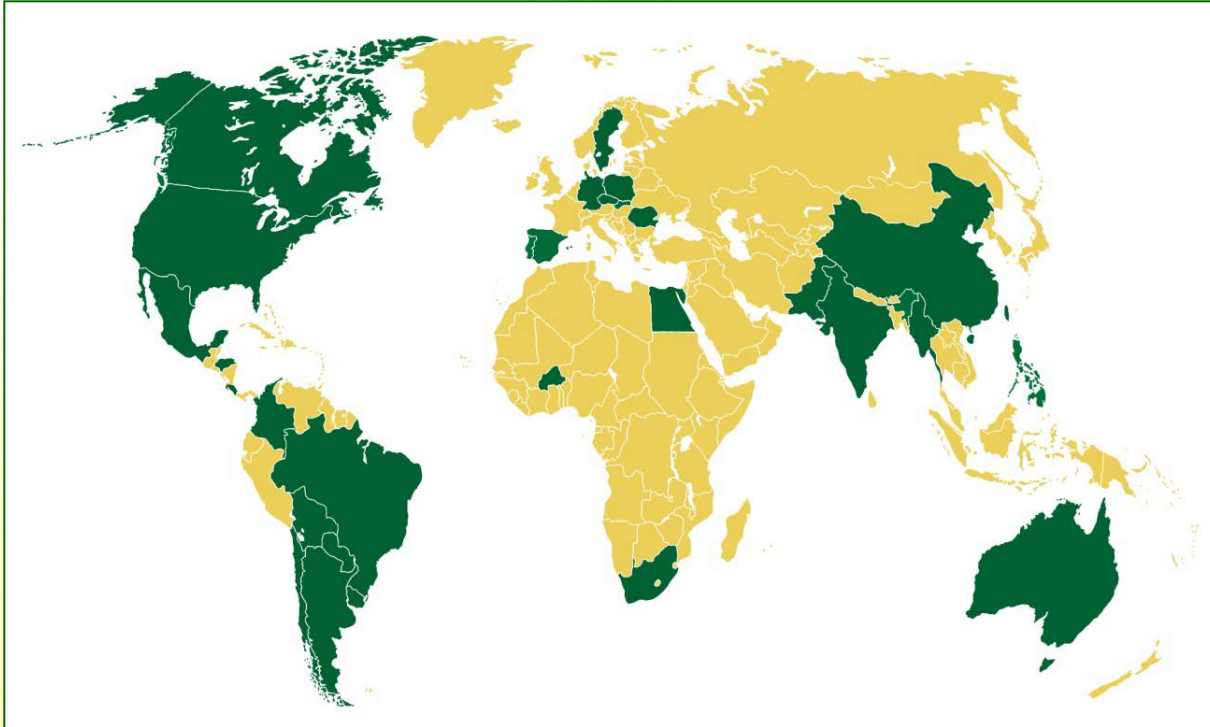


# Regional Arrangements

## *Examples:*

- Grupo Ad hoc de Biotecnologia Agropecuária do Mercosul (GAHBA)/Mercosul
- **Conselho Agropecuário do Sul – Grupo de Trabalho nº 05**
- **North American Biotechnology Initiative – NABI**

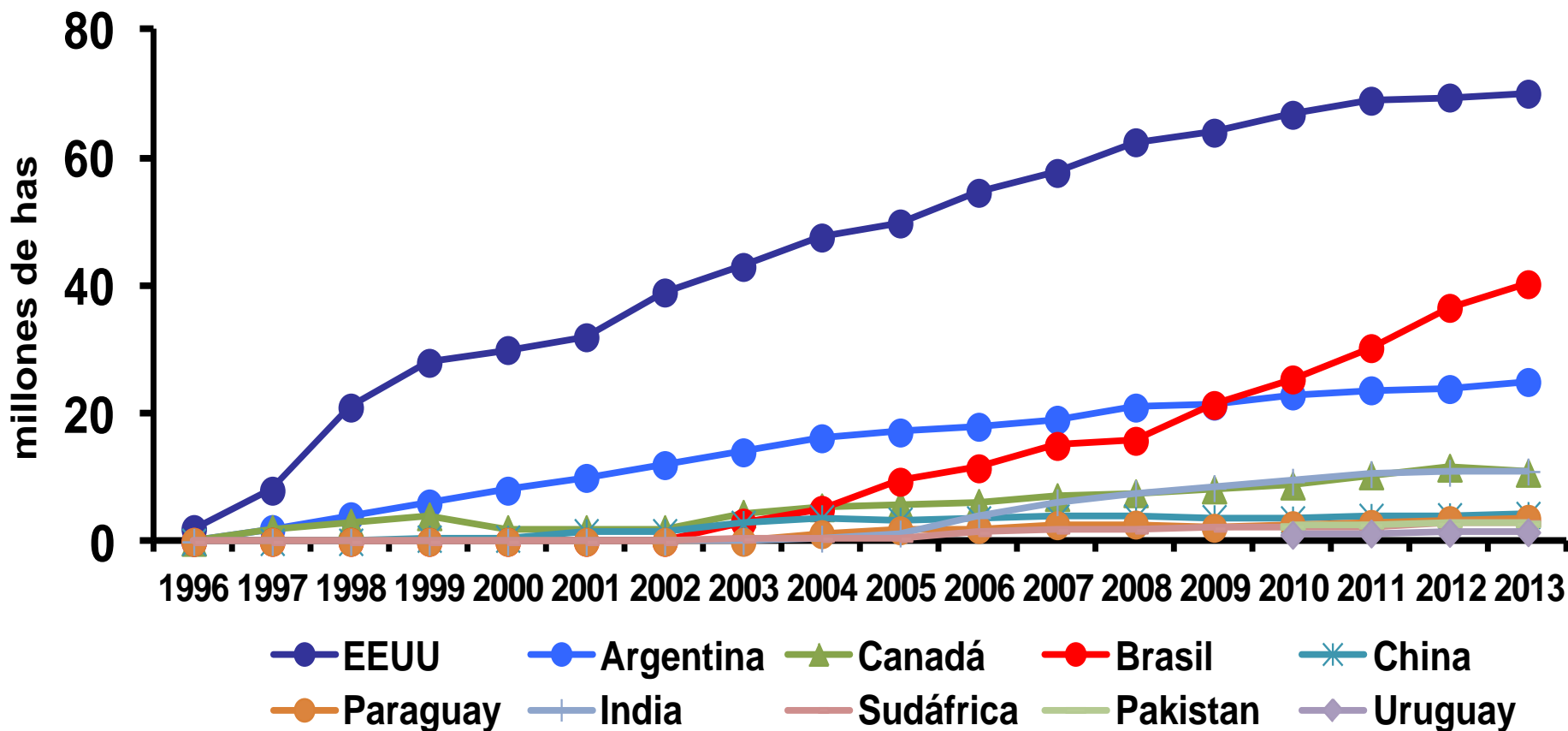
# GM Crops in the World



Soybean – corn –  
cotton – canola –  
others

- **29 countries cultivating GM Plants**
- **170 million hectares**

# Evolução da superfície cultivada com OGM, por país



# Biotechnology Regulation in Brazil

- **Law nº 8.974/95** (1st Law of GMO Biosafety)
- **Law nº 11.105/05** (2nd Law of GMO Biosafety)
- **Decree nº 6.041/2007 – National Policy for Biotechnology Development**

# GM crops Approved (37)

## Maize (19)

T25 - Liberty Link

MON 810 - YieldGard

Bt11

NK 603 - Roundup Ready 2

GA21

TC 1507 - Herculex

MIR162 - Viptera

MON 810 x NK603 - YieldGard/RR2

Bt11 x GA21

MON 89034 - YieldGard VT Pro

TC1507 x NK603

MON 89034 x NK 603 - YieldGard VT Pro

Bt 11 x MIR 162 x GA21

MON 88017 - YieldGard VT Rootworm/RR2

MON 89034 x TC 1507 x NK 603

TC 1507 x MON 810 x NK 603

TC 1507 x MON 810

MON 89034 x MON 88017

TC1507 x DAS-59122-7

## Beans (1)

EMBRAPA 5.1

## Cotton (12)

MON 531 - Bolgard I

LLCOTTON25 - Liberty Link

MON 1445 - Roundup Ready

281-24-236/3006-210-23 Widestrike

MON 15985 - Bolgard II

MON 531 x MON 1445

GHB 614 - GlyTol

GHB 119 x T 304-40 - TwinLink

MON 88913

GlyTol x TwinLink

GlyTol x LibertyLink

MON 15985 X MON 88913

## Soybean (5)

GTS-40-3-2 - Roundup Ready

BSP-CV127-9 - Cultivance

A-2704-12 - Liberty Link

A 5547-127 - Liberty Link

MON 87701 x MON 89788 - Intacta RR2 PRO™

# GM crops currently on the Market in Brazil

Maize (16) Event / Commercial Name
MON 810 – YieldGard <sup>®</sup>
Bt11 – Agrisure TL <sup>®</sup>
NK 603 – Milho RR2 <sup>®</sup>
GA21 – GA21 <sup>®</sup> -TG
Herculex I <sup>®</sup> – TC 1507
MIR 162 – Agrisure Viptera
MON 810 x NK 603 – YieldGard RR2 <sup>®</sup>
Bt11 x GA21 – Agrisure TL/TG <sup>®</sup>
MON 89034 – YieldGard VT PRO <sup>®</sup>
TC1507 x NK603 – Herculex I RR (HR) <sup>®</sup>
MON89034 x NK603 – YieldGard VT PRO 2 <sup>®</sup>
Bt11 x MIR162 x GA21 – Viptera TL/TG <sup>®</sup>
MON89034 x TC1507 x NK603 – VT PRO MAX/ Powercore <sup>®</sup>
MON810 x TC1507 x NK603 – YieldGard Herculex I RR (YHR) <sup>®</sup>
TC1507 x MON810 – YieldGard Herculex I (YH) <sup>®</sup>
MON89034 x MON88017 – YieldGard VT PRO 3 <sup>®</sup>

Cotton (10) Event / Commercial Name
MON 531 – Bollgard I <sup>®</sup>
LLCOTTON25 – Liberty Link
MON 1445 – Roundup Ready
281-24-236/3006-210-23 – Widestrike
MON 15985 – Bolgad II
MON 531 X MON 1445 – Bollgard <sup>®</sup> /RR
MON 88913 – Roundup Ready Flex <sup>®</sup>
GHB614 x T604-40 x GHB119 – Algodão Glytol x TwinLink
GHB614 x LLCOTTON25 – Algodão Glytol x Liberty Link
MON15985 x MON88913 – Bollgard <sup>®</sup> II RR Flex (B2RF)

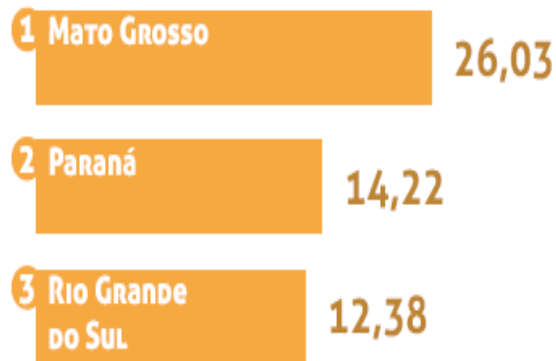
Soybean (2) Event / Commercial Name
GTS40-3-2 (MON 04032-6) – Soja RR
MON 87701 x MON 89788 – Soja Intacta RR2 Pro

# Production of GM crops in Brazil

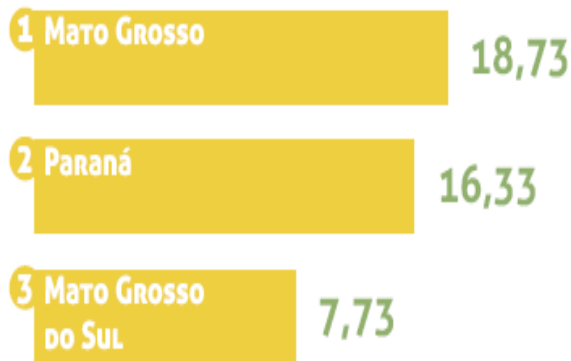
(in millions of tonnes)



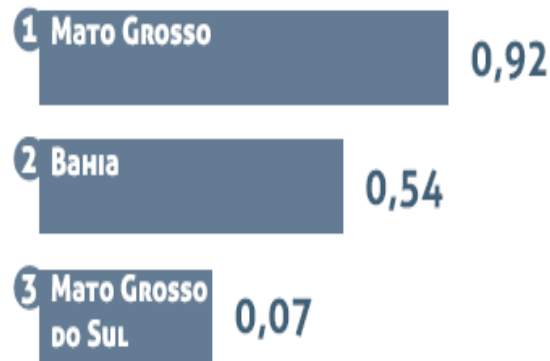
**SOYBEAN 89,94**



**Maize 78,38**



**COTTON 1,73**



# Adoption rate of GM crops in Brasil

(by area)



**Soybean**  
**91,8%**



**Maize**  
**81,6%**



**COTTON**  
**65%**

In millions of hectares:

Conventional  
2,45

GM  
27,41

TOTAL  
29,86



Conventional  
2,82

GM  
12,45

TOTAL  
15,27



Conventional  
0,39

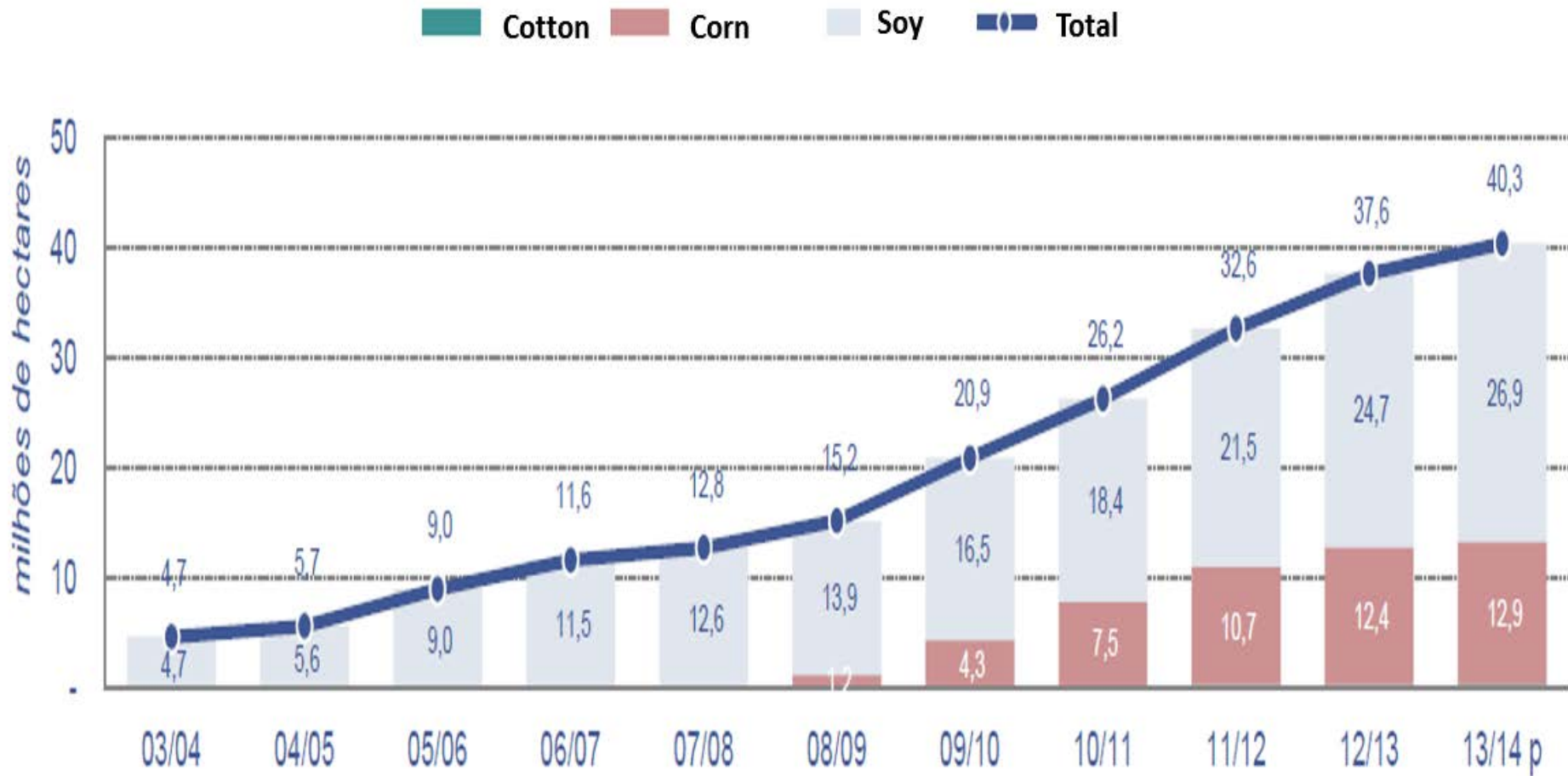
GM  
0,71

TOTAL  
1,10





# Biotechnology Adoption in Brazil (million hectares)



# Low Level Presence

Presence of traces of GMOs that are authorized in the exporting country but is not yet authorized in the importing country

# LLP – Regulatory Options

***Zero Tolerance Policy***

**X**

***Threshold Policy***

**X**

***Functional Regulatory Systems (full authorization)***

# *Low Level Presence*

*Codex Alimentarius*



## *Complementary Guideline for LLP*

## *Guidelines for GMO Detection*

## **“Global Initiative on LLP”**

- **Argentina, Australia, Brasil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Indonesia, México, África do Sul, EUA, Rússia, Uruguay e Vietnam**
- **Observers: China e UE**
- **Objective: To discuss regulatory options to manage globally the issue of LLP in agricultural products**

# Lessons from Harmonization process in Plant Biotechnology

- **Harmonization x Feasibility:** Complex and difficult, but it must be pursued. In the immediate impossibility, regional or bilateral group for exchange of legal framework / experiences / solutions is extremely useful.
- **Harmonization x Time:** anticipation of relevant issues is beneficial and distinction between scientific and political aspects highly relevant
- **Harmonization x Scope:** prevent attempts to harmonize legislation as a whole. Focus on objective technical aspects (risk assessment, eg.)

# Lessons from Harmonization process in Plant Biotechnology

- **Harmonization and Stakeholders:** support of independent experts, academia and industry contributes heavily.
- **Harmonization x Institutionalality:** strengthen discussion and commitments in international fora
- **Harmonization x Context:** establish a regulatory/internal policy before pursuing international harmonization

## **Technical Topics that might be useful to have some Harmonization**

- **Environmental Risk Assessment**
- **Characterization of the Events**
- **Detection**
- **Approach for labeling**



**Obrigado!**



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