



BIOTECH COUNTRY FACTS & TRENDS

Nigeria



In 2019, the Federal Government of Nigeria approved the commercial cultivation of **BT COTTON** and the regulatory approval for **BT COWPEA**.

Bt cotton was planted on **700 HECTARES** and coincided with the government's initiative to revive the cotton sector.

Nigeria became the **FIRST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD** to approve the commercialization of **GENETICALLY IMPROVED COWPEA** resistant to pod borers.



Cowpea is an important staple food crop in Nigeria and is used by millions of farmers for provision of a cost-effective, high protein diet, as opposed to animal protein (fish, poultry, and beef).

Nigeria is the world's largest consumer of cowpea with an annual consumption of 3.6 million tons. The government is dedicated to ensuring local seed production, and 2019 was dedicated to foundation seed production for large-scale multiplication of certified seeds for planting in 2020.



For more information, visit:
www.isaaa.org

Sources:
ISAAA. 2019. Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops in 2019. *ISAAA Brief* No. 55.
Brookes, G. and P. Barfoot. 2020. *GM Crops: Global Socio-Economic and Environmental Impacts 1996-2018*.