In 2018, biotech soybeans accounted for 50% of all the biotech crop area in the world.

The global area of herbicide tolerant and stacked trait insect resistant and herbicide tolerant (IR/HT) soybeans in 2018 was 95.9 million hectares, an increase of 2% over the 2017 area, equivalent to 1.8 million hectares.

The 95.9 million hectares biotech soybeans in 2018 was comprised of 69.3 million hectares HT and 26.6 million hectares stacked IR/HT (Intacta™).

The global area planted to soybeans in 2018 was 123.5 million hectares, 78% of which was biotech soybeans. Biotech soybeans were planted in 8 countries in 2018. In decreasing area, these countries were United States of America (34.1 million hectares), Brazil (34.9 million hectares), Argentina (18.0 million hectares), Paraguay (3.35 million hectares), Canada (2.42 million hectares), Uruguay (1.26 million hectares), Bolivia (1.26 million hectares), and South Africa (694,000 hectares).

Notably, three new soybean events were approved in Japan: DP305423 x MON87708 (high oleic acid and dicamba tolerant, for food and processing), DP305423 x MON87708 x MON89788 (high oleic acid, glyphosate and dicamba tolerant for food, feed, processing, and cultivation) and DP305423 x MON89788 (high oleic acid and glyphosate tolerant, for food and processing). Soybean stacked event HB4 x GTS 40-3-2 with salt tolerance and glyphosate tolerance were approved in Argentina for food, processing, and cultivation.

**BENEFITS FROM BIOTECH SOYBEANS**

The increase in income benefits for farmers growing biotech soybean during the 21-year period 1996 to 2016 was US$59.7 billion and US$6.9 billion for 2016 alone (Brookes and Barfoot, 2018).

**SOURCE**


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