



FARMER'S VIEW ON BIOTECH CROPS

Dr. Zafar Hayat
President Farmers Bureau
Pakistan
Email: drzhghu@gmail.com



ADOPTION OF TECHNOLOGIES BY FARMERS HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

GM COTTON

Entry of technology into the country

Productivity went up

Effect on seed and cotton quality

Pest Scenario

- Pest Resistance
- New pests threatening cotton crop emerged
 - Mealy Bug
 - Dusky Bug

Where do we stand now regarding GM cotton

WHAT WENT WRONG WITH GM COTTON

Regulatory bodies

Capacity for monitoring gene expression

Existing GM Cotton lost its effectiveness against PINK and occasional outbreaks of resistance against HELIOTHIS observed

Available Seed Varieties, highly susceptible to sucking pests

Farmers lost confidence in the technology

CURRENT VIEW OF THE FARMERS

Every technology is welcome

- which increases farmer productivity and economics
- Environment safe
- Should have scientific backing
- End product acceptable in the market