Technology Agreements with Universities for Field Trials with Transgenic Traits. (A07-boeve092355-Oral)

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Abstract:

Monsanto has introduced several biotechnology-based products in the U.S. including Bollgard cotton, Yieldgard corn and Roundup Ready soybean, cotton, corn and canola. These products have been widely adopted by growers who are very satisfied with their performance. Each product is protected by various types of patents. Monsanto grants growers a limited license to purchase and use technologies contained in seed they purchase solely for planting a single commercial crop. Growers must sign the license agreement indicating they understand and will abide by its provisions including technology stewardship practices like Insect Resistance Management and grain channeling. A specific provision of the grower license agreement does not allow seed bearing Monsanto's proprietary technologies to be used for plant breeding, research or seed production. However, since public research plays an important role in the commercialization of biotechnologies and development of recommendations for their use in agronomic systems, Monsanto has developed a research license specifically for public institutions. Provisions of that license protect associated intellectual property while enabling public research and extension personnel to fulfill their educational and outreach missions.

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