

**EU DEPENDENCY ON THE IMPORT OF GM COMMODITIES A
FARMERS PERSPECTIVE ON AGRICULTURAL AND BIO
TECHNOLOGY IN PORTUGAL AND EUROPE**

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Although GM crops are not widely grown in the EU, a large number of GM varieties -- including maize, soya, oilseed rape, cotton and rice -- that have not been authorized for use in the EU have been approved for growing elsewhere, in particular major commodity-exporting countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, India and the USA. Indeed, the EU system for the approvals of GMOs is accumulating a huge backlog which is threatening to disrupt Europe's supplies of agricultural commodities. Each year, the number of products approved is lower than the new applications received. The fact that approval and the commercial use of newly-developed GM plants are carried out significantly faster in third countries than in Europe entails the so called asynchronous authorization i. e. when a certain GM crop has been evaluated for its safety and authorized in the exporting country (X) whereas the importing country (Y) might or might not have evaluated this GM crop for its safety and has not authorized it (yet). Asynchronous authorization has a significant economic impact. In fact, the EU is highly dependent on imported vegetable protein as an ingredient for livestock feed and this is increasingly produced with genetically modified (GM) crops in terms of area and also in terms of crop/trait combinations. Not allowing certain varieties of commodities to enter the EU market, despite abundant evidence of their safety, has led to major trade disruptions in the past and is bound to do so again. The intervention will try to explore the impacts on farmers, especially livestock farmers, of the asynchronous authorization issue.

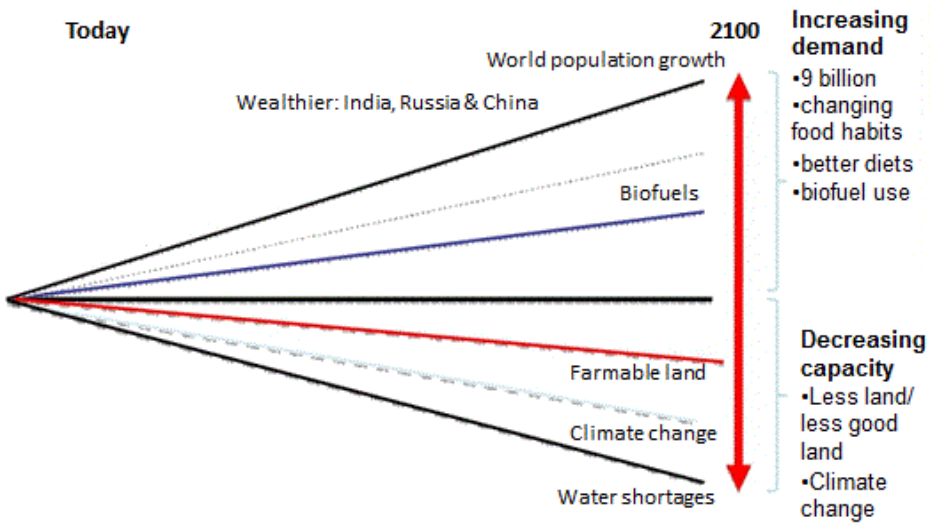


EU DEPENDENCE ON THE IMPORT OF GM COMMODITIES

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SUSTAINABLE INTENSIFICATION or LOCKING INNOVATION



Source: David Green, Greenhouse Communications, Virginia. And Economist magazine 2011.

CAN EU AFFORD IT ?



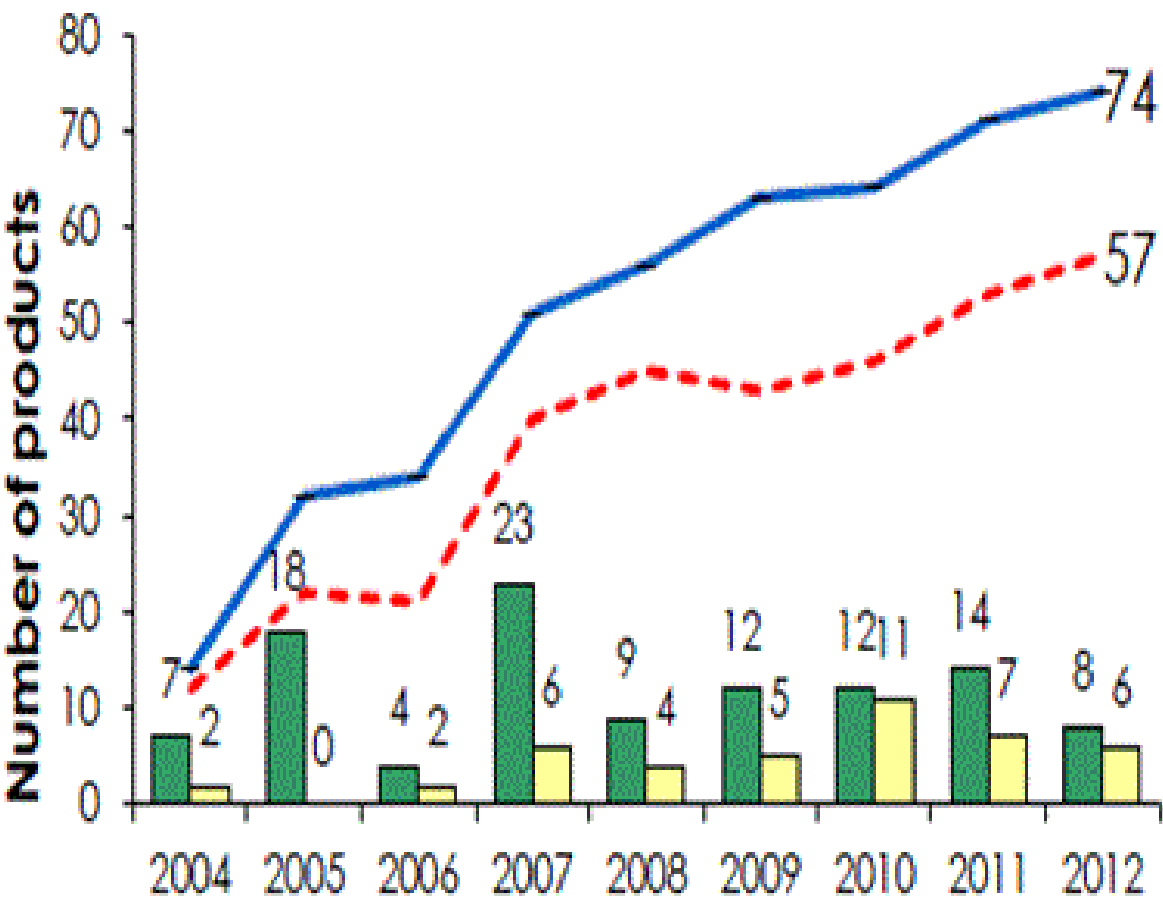
- From overproducer to major food importer
- EU already uses 35 M ha arable land outside of the EU to feed its consumers
- EU imports 80% of vegetable protein for its livestock sector
- 85% of the imports contain GM material

Timelines for GM products with a positive EFSA safety opinion and awaiting Commission action:

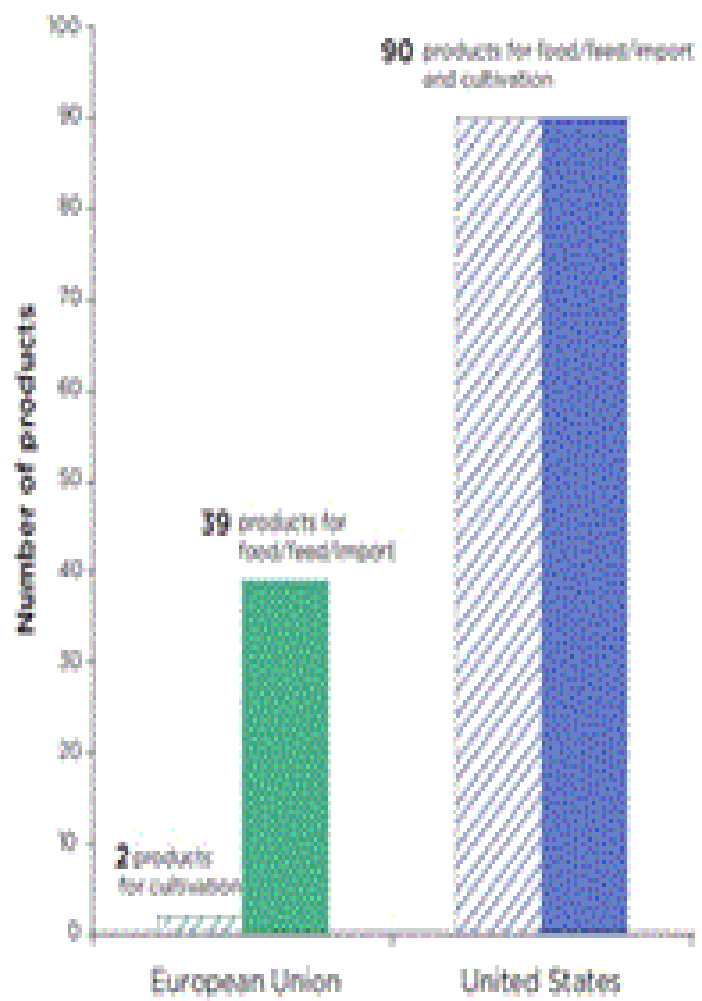
Timelines not compliant with EU law	Timelines compliant for the moment	Products for EU cultivation
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Product	Application Received by EFSA ^{iv}	Publication of EFSA Opinion	Months (m) and days (d) waiting for the Commission to schedule first vote ^v : maximum: 3 months	Months (m) and days (d) waiting for the Commission to schedule second vote ^{vi} : maximum: 2 months	Days after Council/ Appeal vote - waiting for approval
1507 maize (c)	11/2000	03/03/2005	voted after 47 m 22 d (25/02/09)	44 m 11 d and counting	
Bt11 maize (ipc)	05/1996	19/05/2005	voted after 45 m 06 d (25/02/09)	44 m 11 d and counting	
LL Rice62 (ffip)	08/2004	30/10/2007	60 m 06 d and counting		
NK603 maize (ffipc)	08/2005	11/06/2009	40 m 25 d and counting		
MON810 maize (ffipc) (renewal)	06/2007	30/06/2009	40 m 06 d and counting		
MS8xRF3 rapeseed(ff) (renewal)	06/2007	22/09/2009	37 m 14 d and counting		
GT73 oilseed rape(ffip) (renewal)	06/2007	15/12/2009	34 m 21 d and counting		
MON863 maize (ffip) (renewal)	06/2007	30/03/2010	31 m 06 d and counting		
MON89034x1507xMON88017x59122 maize (ffip)	10/2008	27/09/2010	25 m 09 d and counting		
MON89034x1507xNK603 maize (ffip)	02/2009	27/09/2010	25 m 09 d and counting		
MON531 cotton (ffip) (renewal)	06/2007	16/09/2011	13 m 20 d and counting		
MON88017 maize (c)	04/2008	10/11/2011	11 m 26 d and counting		
MON1445 cotton (ffip) (renewal)	06/2007	16/12/2011	10 m 20 d and counting		
GA21 maize (ffipc)	07/2008	16/12/2011	10 m 20 d and counting		
MON 531xMON1445 cotton (ff) (renewal)	06/2007	28/03/2012	7 m 8 d and counting		
MON 40-3-2 soybean (c)	11/2005	21/06/2012	4 m 15 d and counting		
Bayer MS8, RF3& MS8x RF3 oilseed rape (ffip) (extension of scope)	23/06/2010	26/09/2012	1 m 10 d and counting		
MON87705 soybean (ff)	25/02/2010	30/10/2012	0 m 5 d and counting		
Accumulated undue delay per column			446 m 20 d	88 m 22 d	
ACCUMULATED UNDUE DELAY ^{vii}			534 months 42 days = 44.6 years		

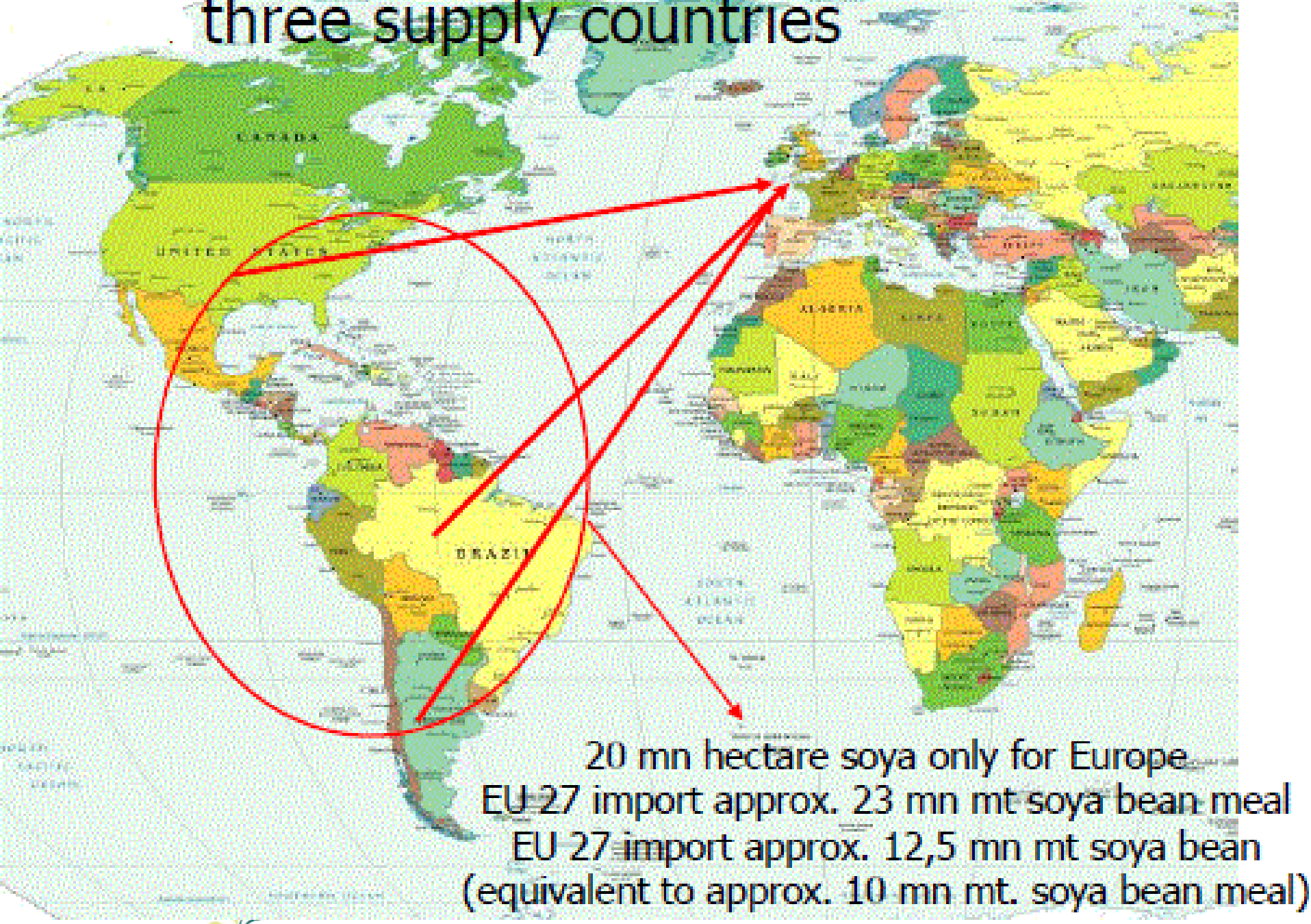
GM Product submissions and authorisations



Source Europabio 2012

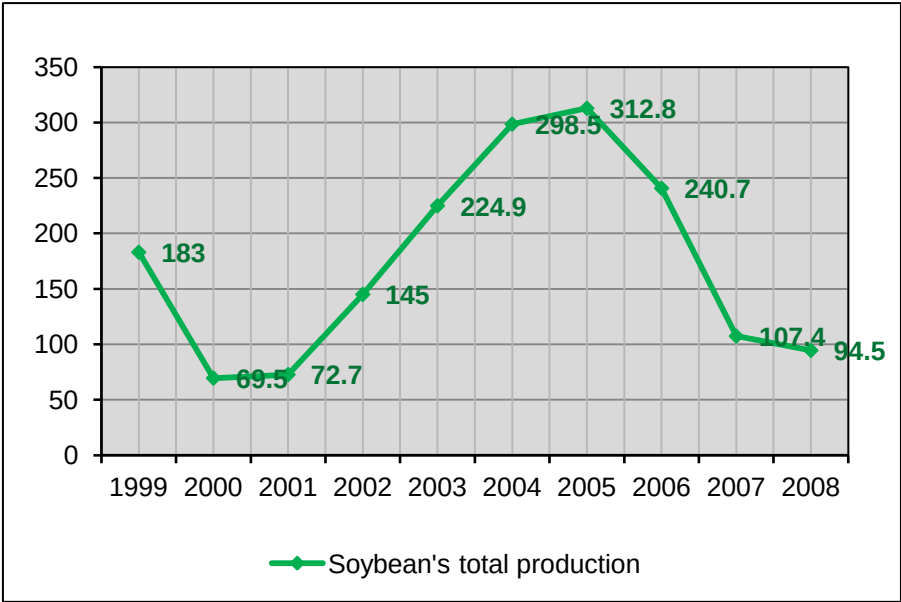


three supply countries



20 mn hectare soya only for Europe
EU 27 import approx. 23 mn mt soya bean meal
EU 27 import approx. 12,5 mn mt soya bean
(equivalent to approx. 10 mn mt. soya bean meal)

Romania soybean production 1999–2007



- Country with national ban
- Country with national moratorium
- Country with no ban



TABLE 8
 Estimated benefit to EU of adoption of transgenic crops per crop cycle

Crop	Area, Mha	Trait	€/ha		€M	
			min	max	min	max
Maize ^a	8.5	IR			157	334
Cotton	0.26	IR	50	150	13	39
Soyabean	0.5	HT	10	38	5	19
Oilseed rape	6.5	HT	30	49	195	318
Sugarbeet	1.46	HT	50	150	73	219
Total					443	929

THANKS

FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Q&INFO

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