

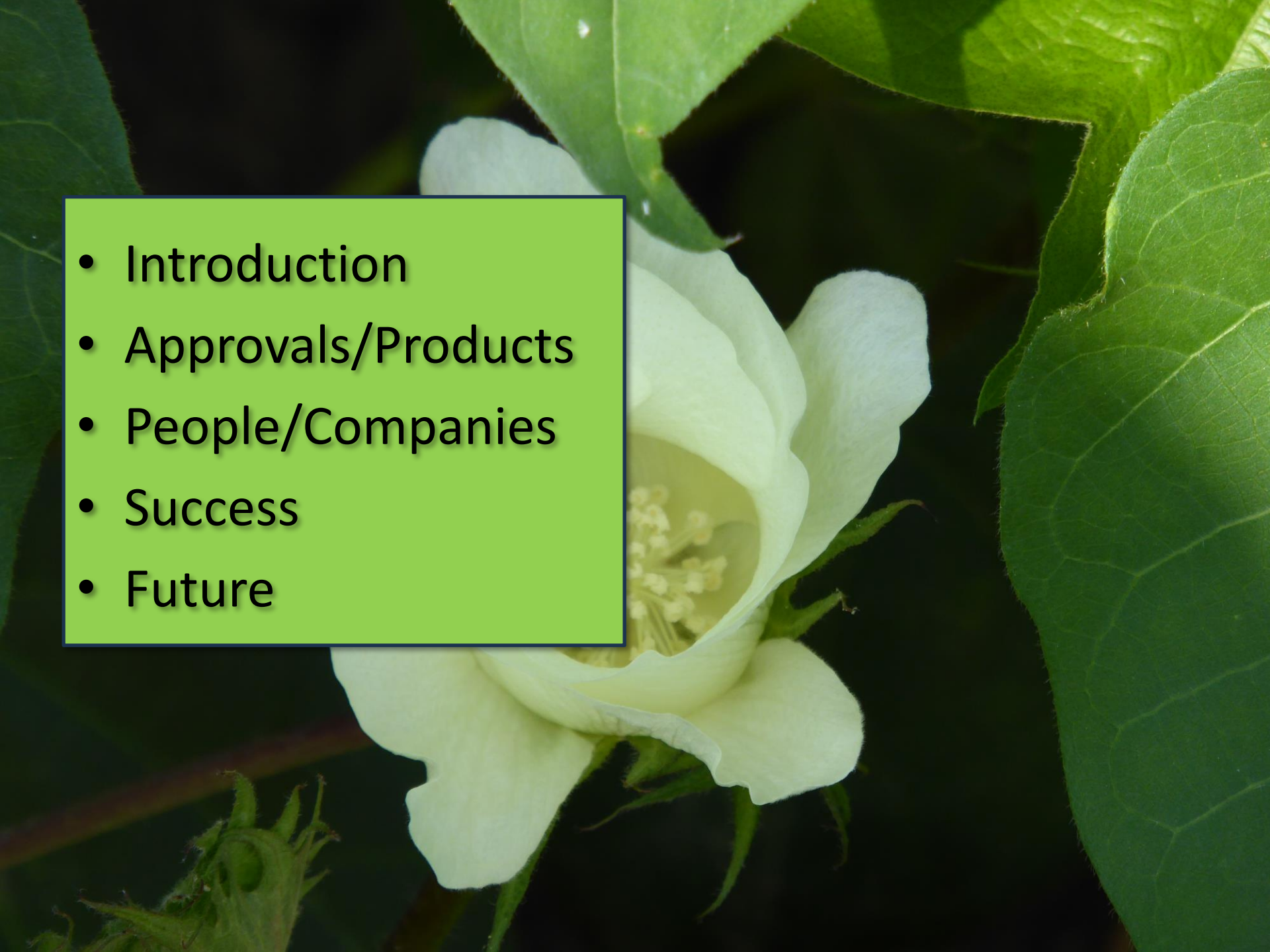


# **History of Biotech Crops**

**Laura Privalle, Ph.D.**

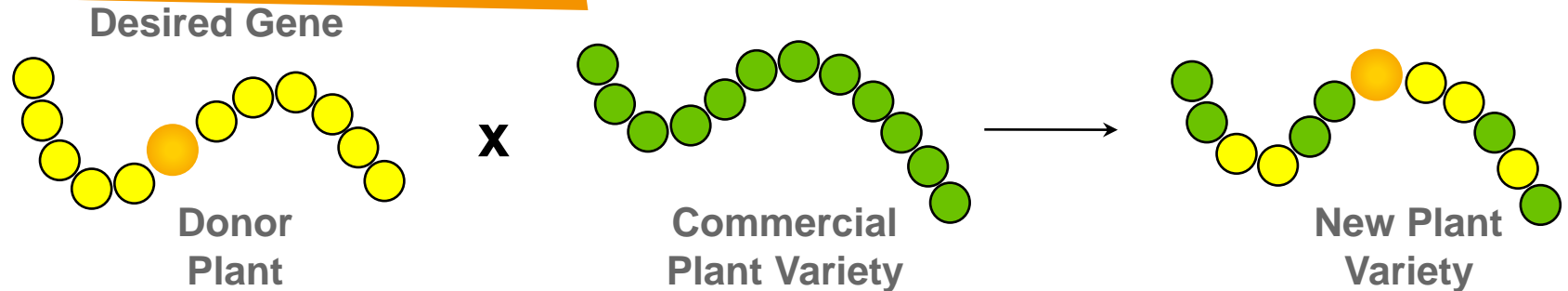
**October 18, 2023**



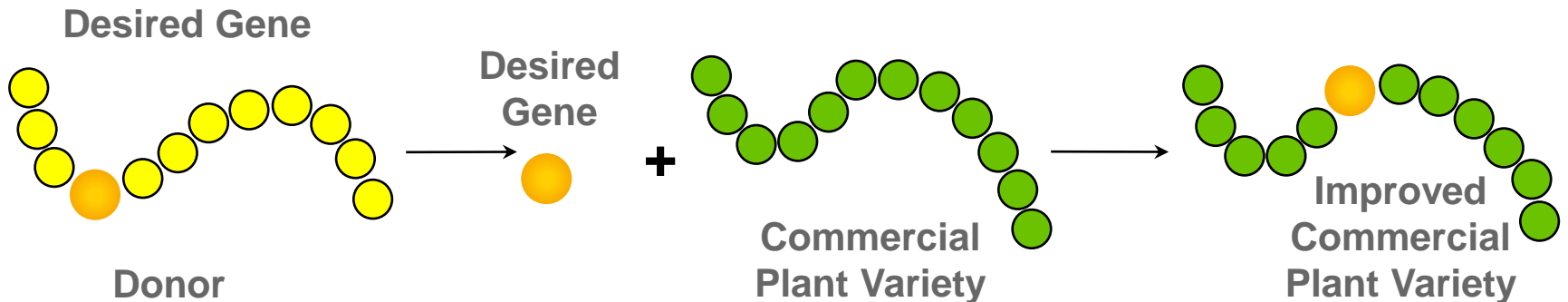
- 
- Introduction
  - Approvals/Products
  - People/Companies
  - Success
  - Future

# Biotechnology is an extension of traditional plant breeding

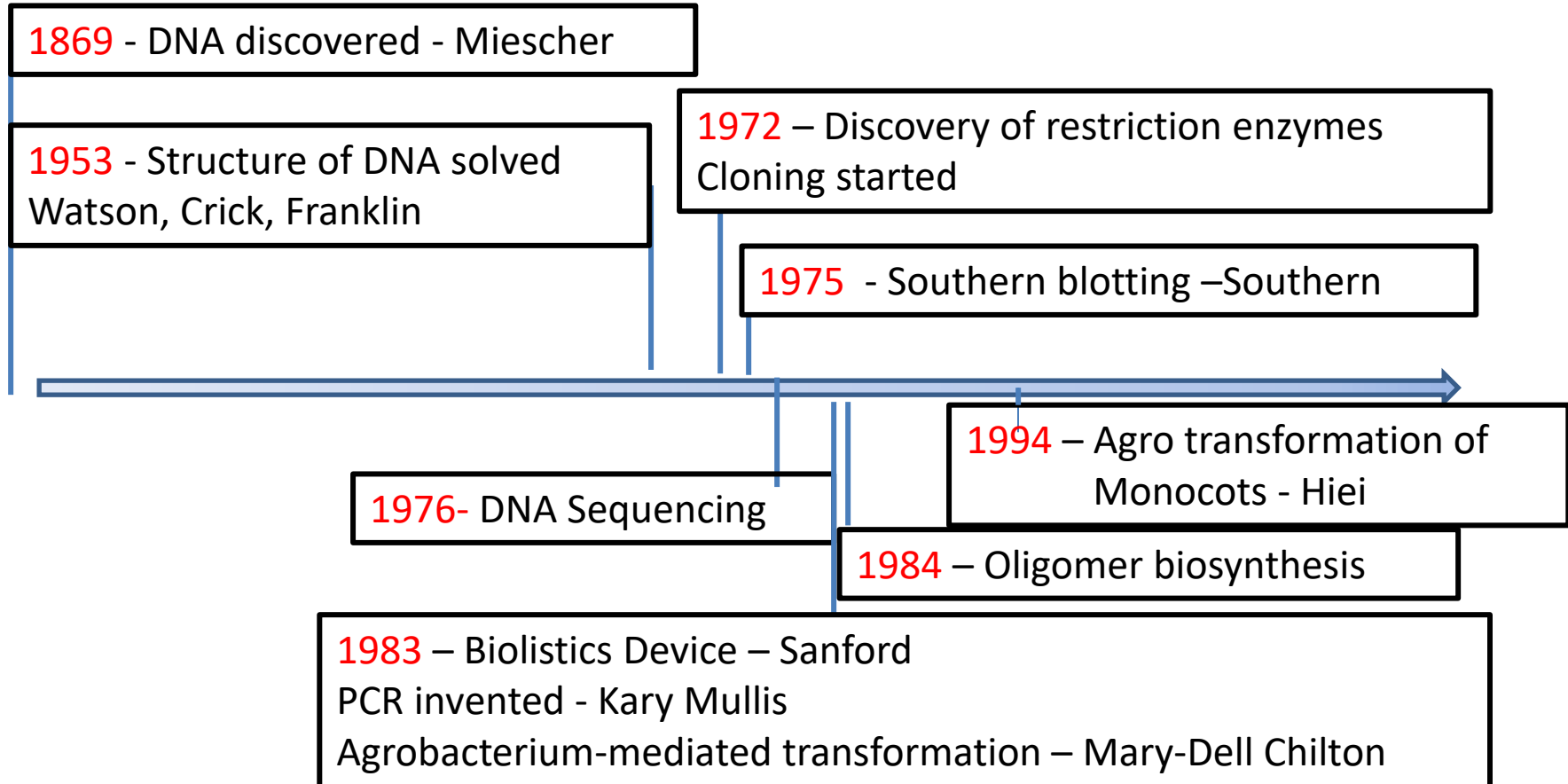
## Traditional plant breeding



## Plant biotechnology



# Critical Enabling Technologies



# Product concept - scientifically what is possible

Single gene → Phenotype



Herbicide tolerance

Insect Resistance

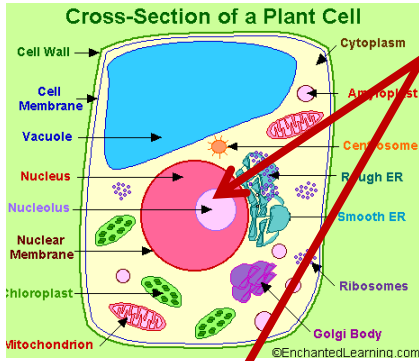


• Multiple Genes → Phenotype

Metabolic pathways  
– i.e. modified oils



# Many hurdles have to be overcome to generate transformed plants



gene into the plant genome

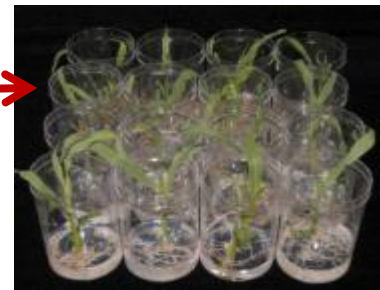
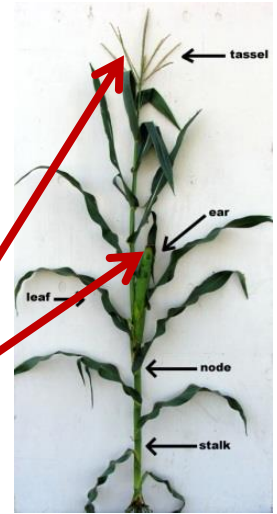
plant cell to turn into a plant...

...that expresses the gene

Getting a transformed plant to be fertile

Getting the progeny to express the phenotype...

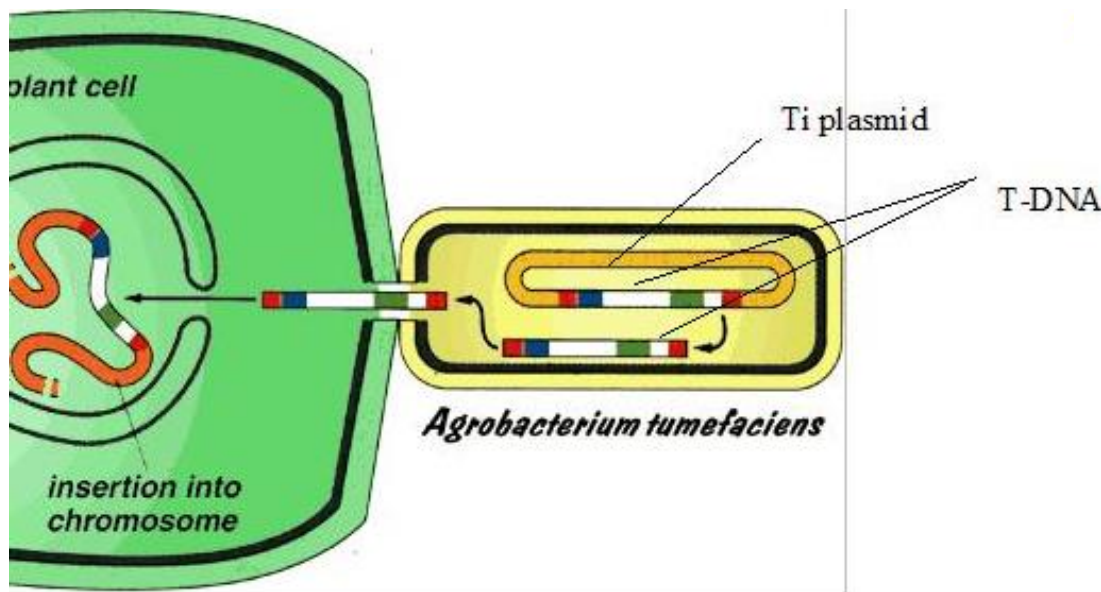
...without yield drag





# Trait Introduction: Biolistics vs. Agro transformation

- Earliest events used biolistics (or similar brute force transformation)
- Protoplast transformation has also been used successfully
- Transformation using *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* is more precise



# Key Early US Regulatory Approvals

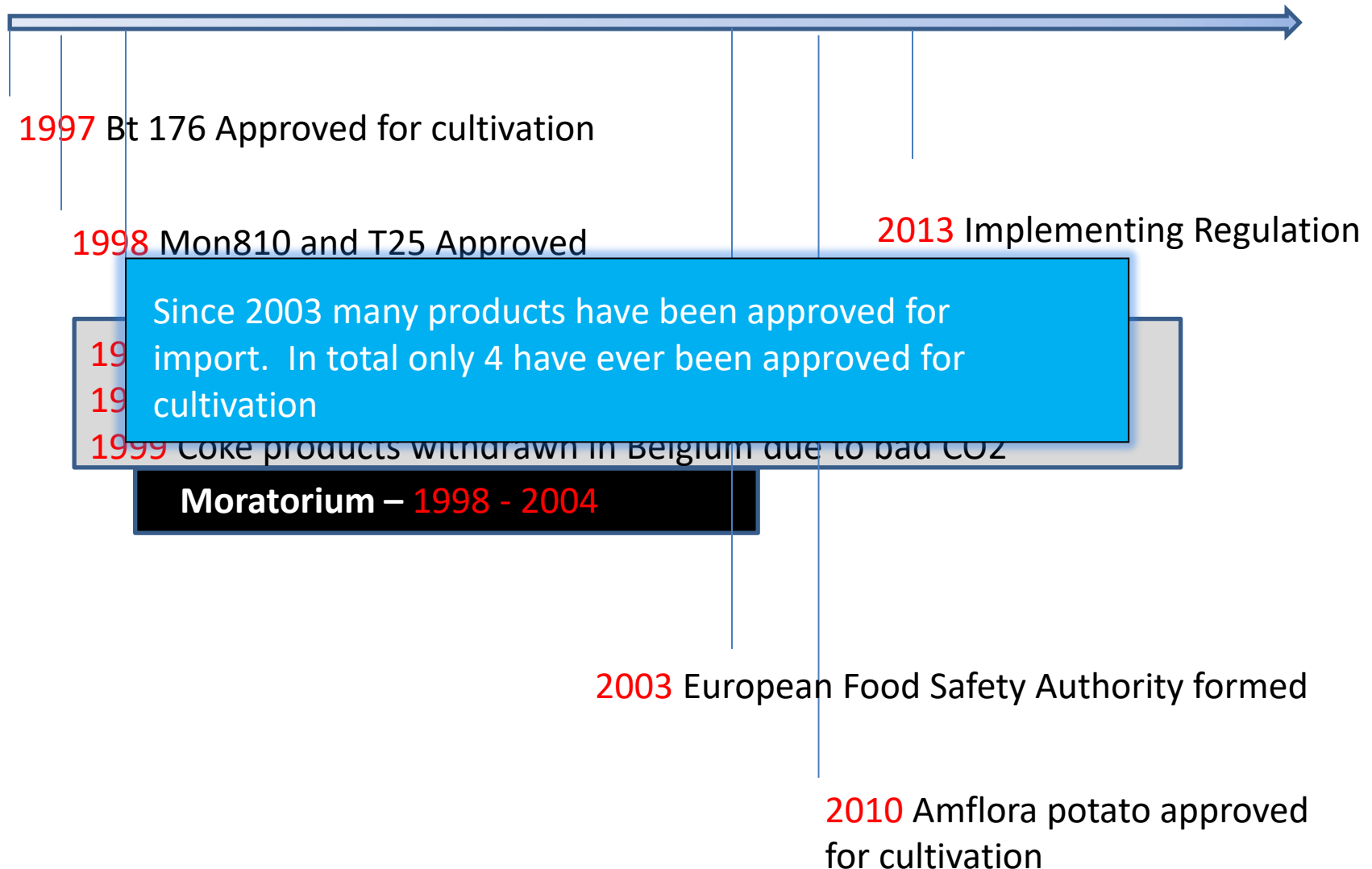
Year	Product	Agency	Registrant
1992	FlavrSavr Tomato ( <u>delayed</u> ripening)	FDA	Calgene (now Bayer)
1994	Bt176 Maize ( <u>insect</u> resistance)	EPA (1995, USDA, FDA)	Ciba-GEIGY (now Syngenta)
	Bromoxynil Cotton ( <u>herbicide</u> tolerant)	USDA, FDA	Calgene (now Bayer)
	RR Soybean ( <u>herbicide</u> tolerant)	USDA (1995, FDA)	Monsanto (now Bayer)
1995	New Leaf Potato ( <u>insect</u> resistant)	USDA, EPA, FDA	Monsanto (now Bayer)
	T25 Maize (herbicide tolerant)	USDA	Agrevo (now BASF)
	RR Canola (herbicide tolerant)	USDA, FDA	Monsanto (now Bayer)
	Mon810 (insect resistance)	EPA (1996, USDA, FDA)	Monsanto (now Bayer)
1996	Virus Resistant Papaya	USDA (1997, EPA, FDA)	Cornell University
	InVigor Canola ( <u>herbicide</u> tolerant + hybrid technology)	FDA, USDA EPA, USDA, FDA	Aventis (now BASF) Northrup King (now Syngenta)
	Bt11 (insect resistant)		
1998	RR Sugarbeet ( <u>herbicide</u> tolerant)	FDA, USDA	Monsanto (now Bayer)/Novartis (now Syngenta)



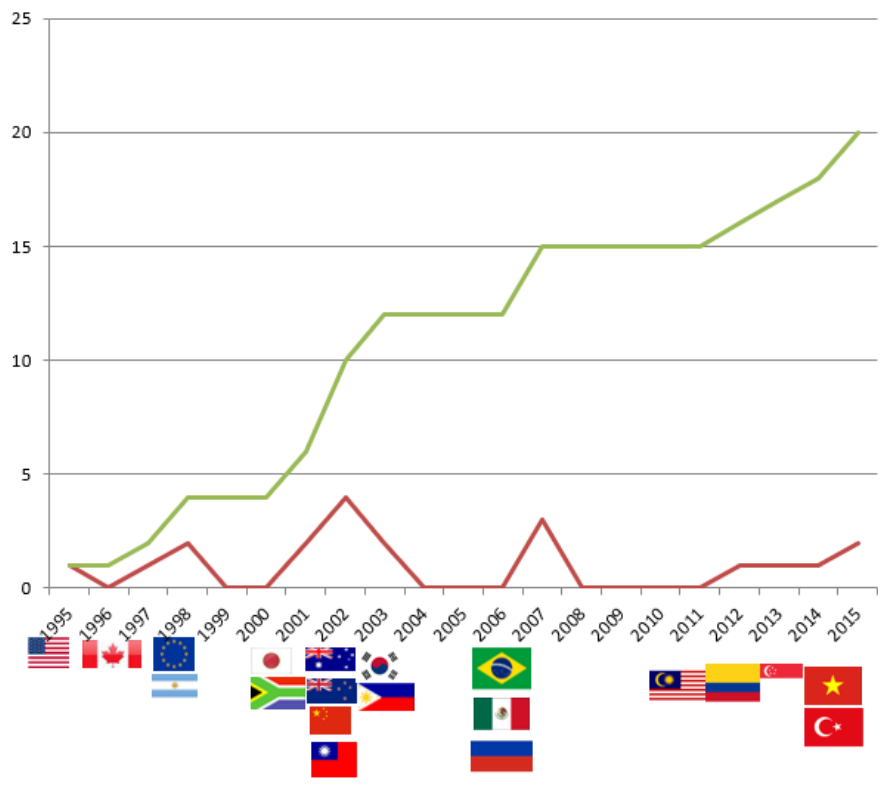
# Critical Considerations

- Germplasm
- Value Capture
- Herbicide tolerance
- Patents
- Path to Market
- Antibiotic Resistance
- Refuge
- Extraneous DNA

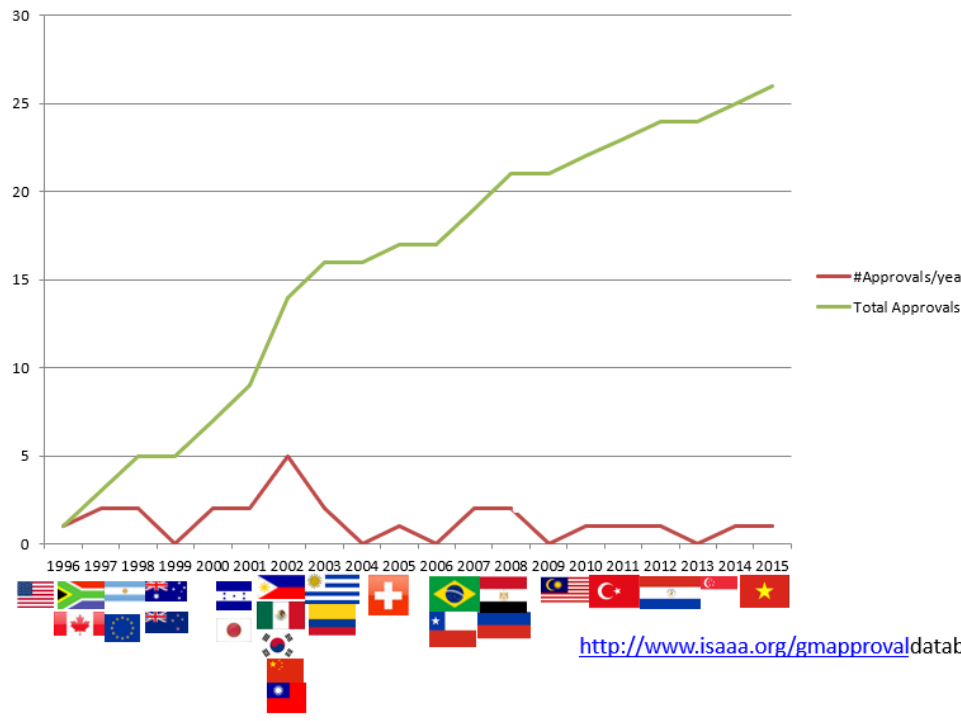
# Biotech Products and Europe – Key Events



# Approvals for T25 (LL corn) – 1st 21 Years



# Approvals for Mon810 (Bt corn) – 1st 20 Years



<http://www.isaaa.org/gmapprovaldatabase>



# Top Ten Countries Which Granted Food, Feed and Cultivation/Environment Approvals\*

Rank	Country	Food	Feed	Cultivation	Total
1	United States	183	178	178	539
2	Japan*	186	177	130	493
3	Canada	147	138	144	429
4	Brazil	111	111	106	328
5	South Korea	157	148	0	305
6	Philippines	116	114	14	244
7	Mexico	188	29	14	231
8	Argentina	77	69	75	221
9	European Union	100	101	4	205
10	Australia	118	18	39	175
	Others	732	431	152	1315
	TOTAL	2115	1514	856	4485

\*For Japan, data is collected from Japan Biosafety Clearing House (JBCH, English and Japanese) as well as the website of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW). However, intermediate events derived from an approved pyramided event recorded in JBCH are not included in our database if they do not appear in MHLW. Also, expired approvals are included in our database from 1992 while JBCH's records starts in 2004.

\*\*USA only approves individual events.

\*\*\*While cultivation approvals are granted in Japan, there are no current GM planting done.

# Key Figures – Mary-Dell Chilton



 Syngenta US

Mary-Dell Chilton, Distinguished Science Fellow - Syngenta US

Chilton has been recognized for her extensive contributions to science. Notable awards include the World Food Prize in...

Age

84 years

Awards

World Food Prize, Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science



## About

Mary-Dell Chilton is one of the founders of modern plant biotechnology. [Wikipedia](#)

**Born:** 1939 (age 84 years), Indianapolis, IN

**Awards:** [World Food Prize](#), [Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science](#)

**Education:** [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign](#)

**Known for:** First genetically modified plants

# Key Figures – Rob Fraley

Robert Fraley

Executive :



Robert Thomas Fraley was Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer at Monsanto, where he helped to develop the first genetically modified seeds. He retired from Monsanto in June 2018. [Wikipedia](#)

**Born:** 1953 (age 70 years), Wellington, IL


**Awards:** World Food Prize, National Medal of Technology and Innovation

**Education:** University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

**Notable student:** Elizabeth E. Hood



# Key Figures – Marc van Montagu



▶ 41:23

YouTube • Annual Reviews

A Conversation with Marc Van Montagu

Marc Van Montagu, President of the European Federation of Biotechnology...

May 8, 2013

Place Of Birth

Ghent, Belgium

Awards

World Food Prize, Japan Prize

Google

Marc Van Montagu - Google Scholar

Marc Van Montagu. VIB-IPBO. Verified email at ugent.be - Homepage · Plant...



## About

Marc, Baron Van Montagu is a Belgian molecular biologist. He was full professor and director of the Laboratory of Genetics at the faculty of Sciences at Ghent University and scientific director of the genetics department of the Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology.

[Wikipedia](#)

**Place of birth:** Ghent, Belgium

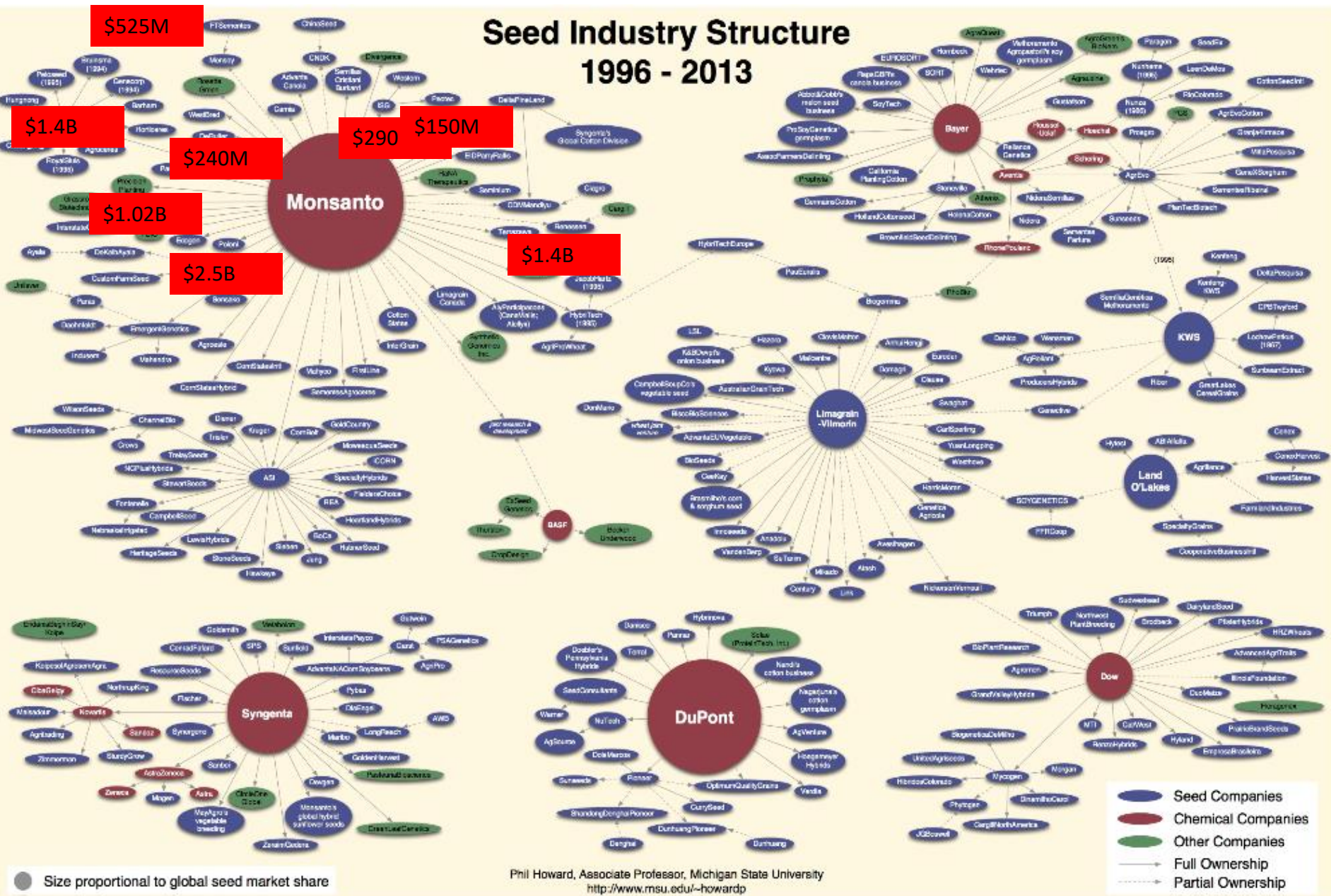
**Awards:** World Food Prize, Japan Prize

**Education:** Ghent University

**Notable student:** Kan Wang

**Organizations founded:** Plant Genetic Systems, CropDesign

# Seed Industry Structure 1996 - 2013



Phil Howard, Associate Professor, Michigan State University  
<http://www.msu.edu/~howardp>



# 2017 Seed Company Family Tree

ChemChina plans on completing the purchase of Syngenta in 2017.



Syngenta will keep their name and continued to be based in Basil Switzerland

**syngenta**  
Novartis & AstraZeneca  
2000  
Purchase by ChemChina  
2017

**GreenLeaf**  
Traits & Genetics  
2004

**NK**  
Corn & Beans  
2000

**Golden Harvest**  
Corn & Beans  
2004

**AgriPro**  
Wheat  
2004

**Enogen**  
α-Amylase Corn  
2011

**Phoenix**  
Corn  
2011

**Catalyst**  
Corn  
2012

**Innotech**  
Corn & Beans  
2013

Sold by Beck's & Advanta

Sold by Burrus & Golden Acres Genetics

Sold by Rob-See-Co

Bayer and Monsanto have entered into a definitive merger agreement. Monsanto accepted Bayer's \$66 billion buyout offer in September of 2016.



Bayer expects to have the buyout completed in 2018. The name of the merged Crop Science company has not been announced.

**MONSANTO**  
2000

Monsanto established its Agriculture Division in 1960. Monsanto merged with Pharmacia & Upjohn in 2000. Monsanto was reorganized into an agriculture only company in 2000.

**CORN STATES**  
Traits & Genetics  
1997

**ASGROW**  
1997

**Channel**  
2004

**SPECIALTY**  
2005

**STONE SEED GROUP**  
2005

**GOLD COUNTRY SEED**  
2006

**HUBNER SEED**  
2007

**LEWIS HYBRIDS**  
2007

**BAYER**  
Bayer CropScience  
Bayer & Aventis  
2002

**DEKALB**  
1998

**Fontanelle HYBRIDS**  
2005

**Stewart**  
2005

**Kruger**  
First class seed, First name service  
2006

**REA HYBRIDS**  
2007

**Jung SEED GENETICS**  
2007

**WestBred**  
Wheat  
2009

**Credenz**  
2014

Dow Chemical & DuPont completed their merger on 8-31-2017. DowDuPont will reorganize into three companies with one focusing on agriculture.



The new agriculture company will feature DuPont in its new name. Major seed brand consolidations are expected within the new company.

**Dow**  
Dow AgroSciences  
1997

**Mycogen SEEDS**  
1998

**DAIRYLAND SEED**  
2008

**BRODBECK SEEDS**  
2008

**pfister**  
2009

**Prairie Brand**  
2011

**Dow Seeds**  
Canada  
2015

Dow acquired Eli Lilly and Company's 40% stake in Dow Elanco in 1997 and renamed it Dow AgroSciences

**DU PONT**  
Seed Division  
1999

**PIONEER**  
1999

**CURRY**  
2008

**HPT**  
High Performance Technology  
Hoegemeyer  
2010

**G2**  
genetics  
NuTech  
2010

**Supreme EX**  
Seed Consultants  
2010

**REV**  
Terral  
2010

**VPMAXX**  
AgVenture  
2010

**RPM**  
Doebler's  
2011

**XL**  
Beck's  
2009

**POWER PLUS**  
Burrus  
2009

PROaccess Seed Companies & Brands

PROaccess Distribution Agreements

DuPont purchased a 20% stake in Pioneer in 1997 and acquired the remaining 80% of Pioneer in 1999. All of DuPont's regional seed companies are administered through DuPont Pioneer's PROaccess business.

**AgReliant GENETICS**  
50/50 Partnership  
Limagrain & KWS  
2000

**LG SEEDS**  
1993

**AgriGold**  
WE KNOW CORN  
1994

**PRIDE SEEDS**  
Canada  
1994

**GREAT LAKES HYBRIDS**  
Generations Ahead  
1988

**WENSMAN**  
2000

**PRODUCERS**  
Hybrids  
2005

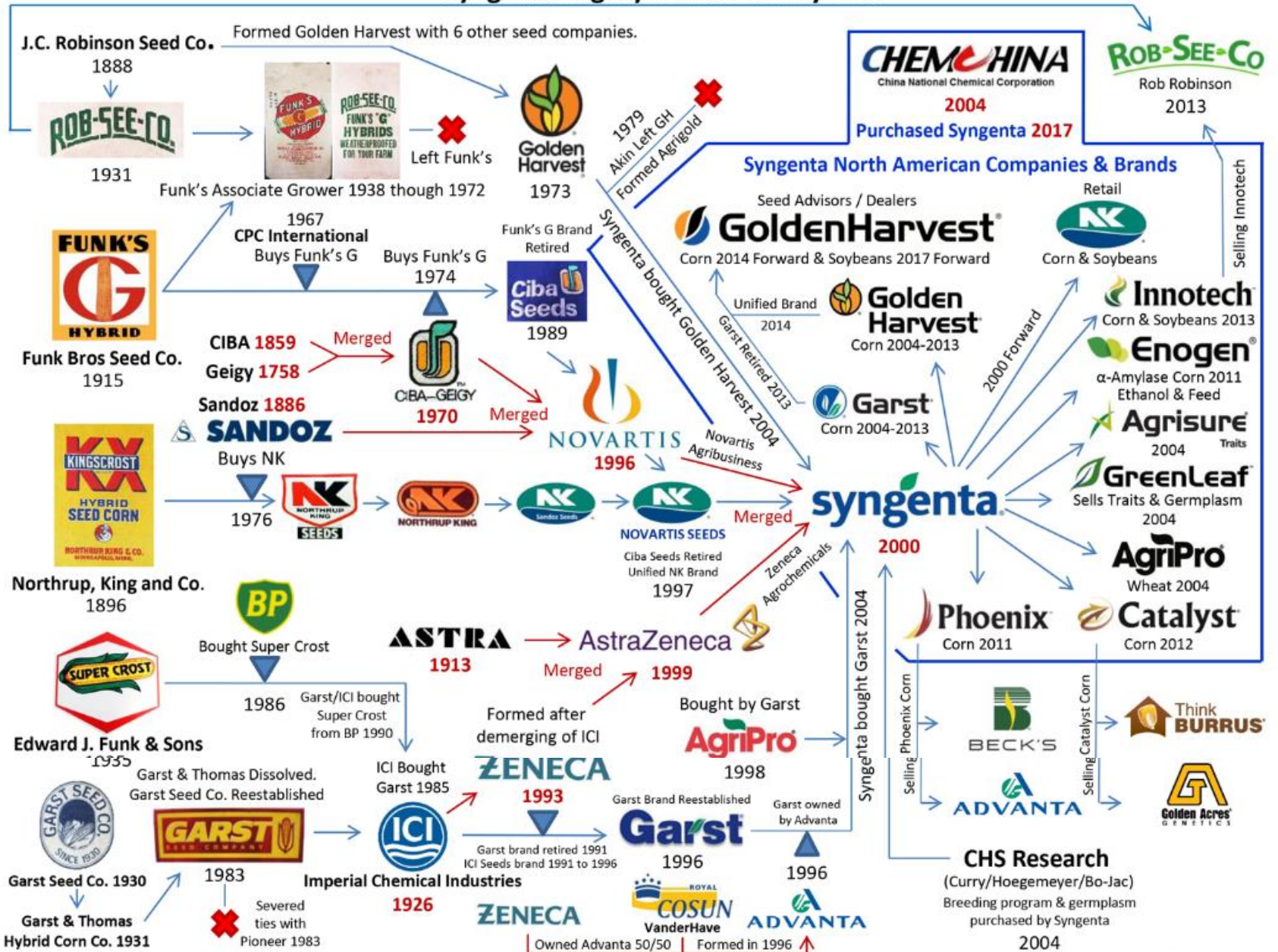
**Eureka**  
2014

**Golden Acres GENETICS**  
2015

AgReliant Seed Brands Retiring In 2018



# Syngenta Legacy Brands Family Tree





But...

Has Biotechnology delivered on its promises???

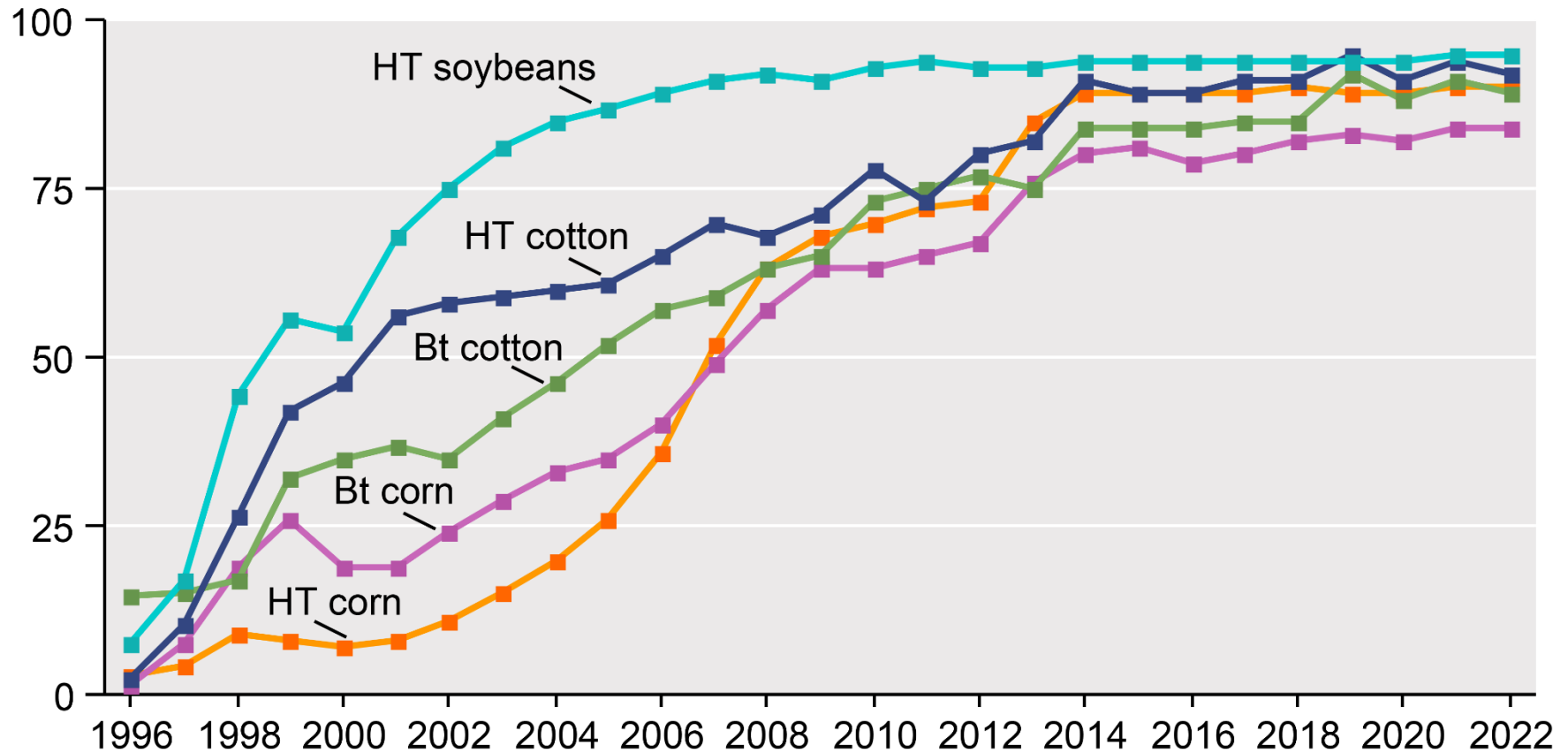
*"Man-despite his artistic pretensions, his sophistication, and his many accomplishments-*

*owes his **existence** to a six inch layer of topsoil and the fact that*

*it rains."*

# Adoption of genetically engineered crops in the United States, 1996–2022

Percent of planted acres



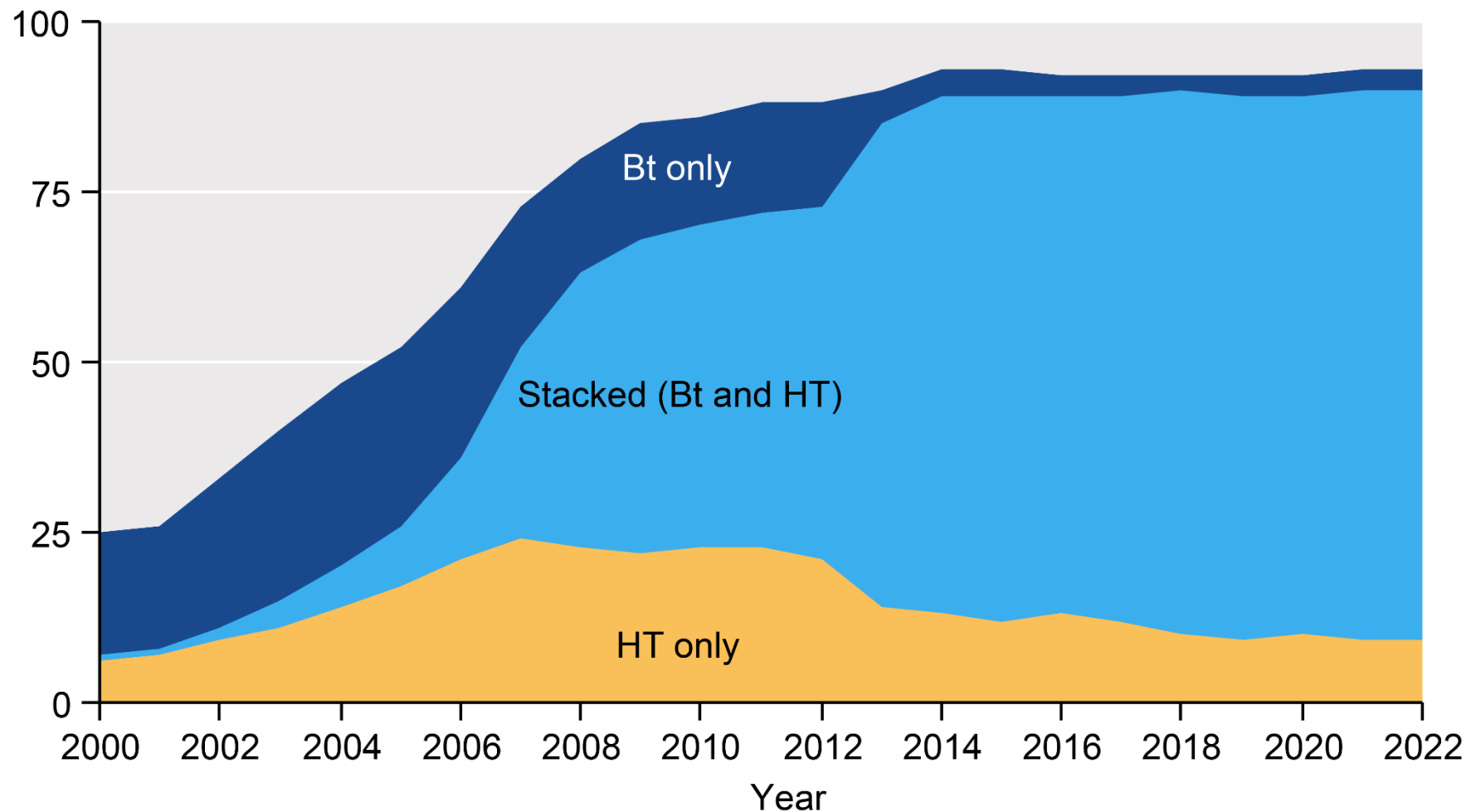
Note: HT indicates herbicide-tolerant varieties; Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) indicates insect-resistant varieties (containing genes from the soil bacterium Bt). Data for HT/Bt corn and cotton are not mutually exclusive, as HT and Bt categories include those varieties with overlapping (stacked) HT and Bt traits.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the 2002 ERS report, Adoption of Bioengineered Crops (AER-810) for 1996–99 and National Agricultural Statistics Service, (annual) June Agricultural Survey for 2000–22.



# Adoption of genetically engineered corn in the United States, by trait, 2000–22

Percent of planted acres

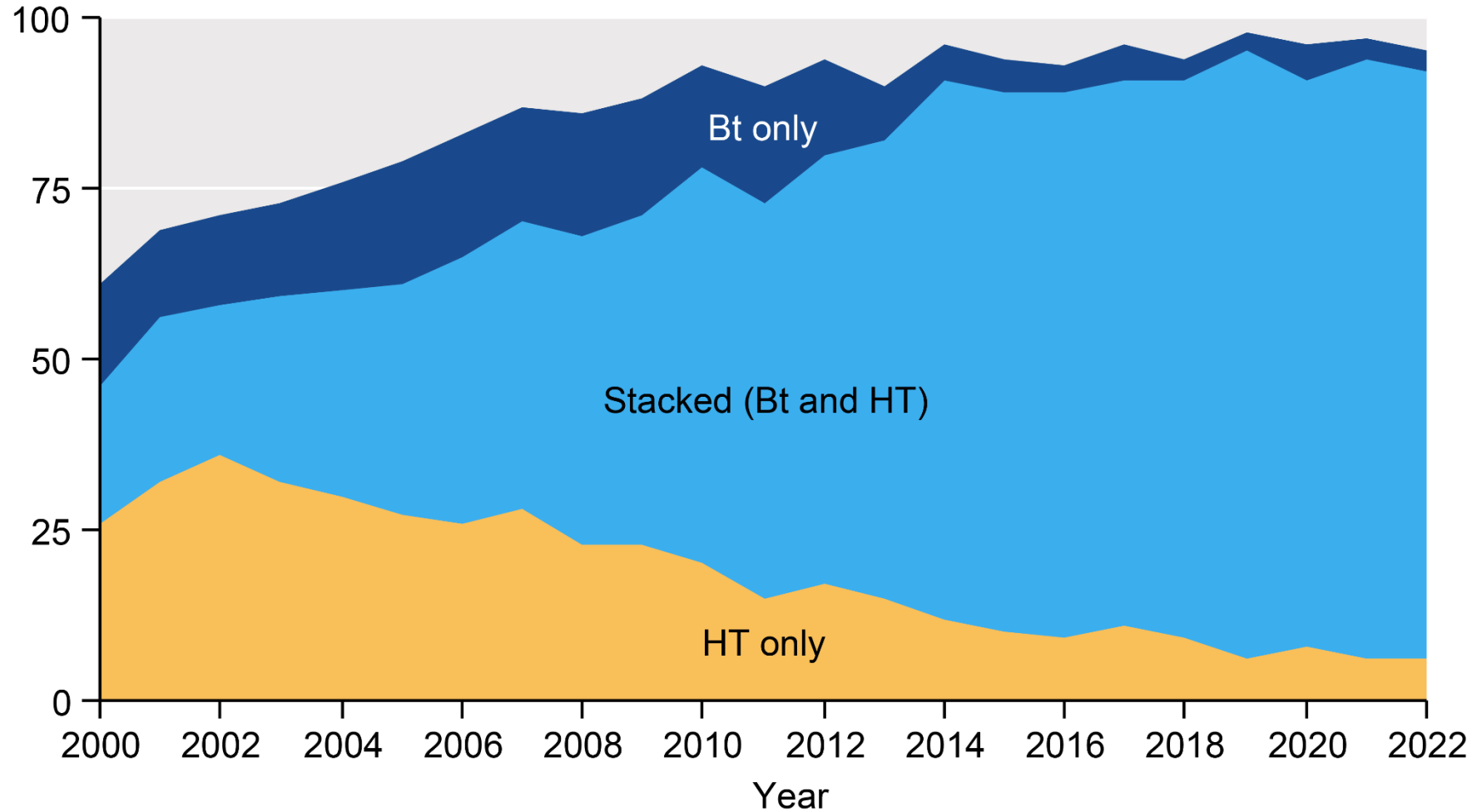


Note: HT indicates herbicide-tolerant varieties; Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) indicates insect-resistant varieties (containing genes from the soil bacterium Bt).

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, (annual) June Agricultural Survey.

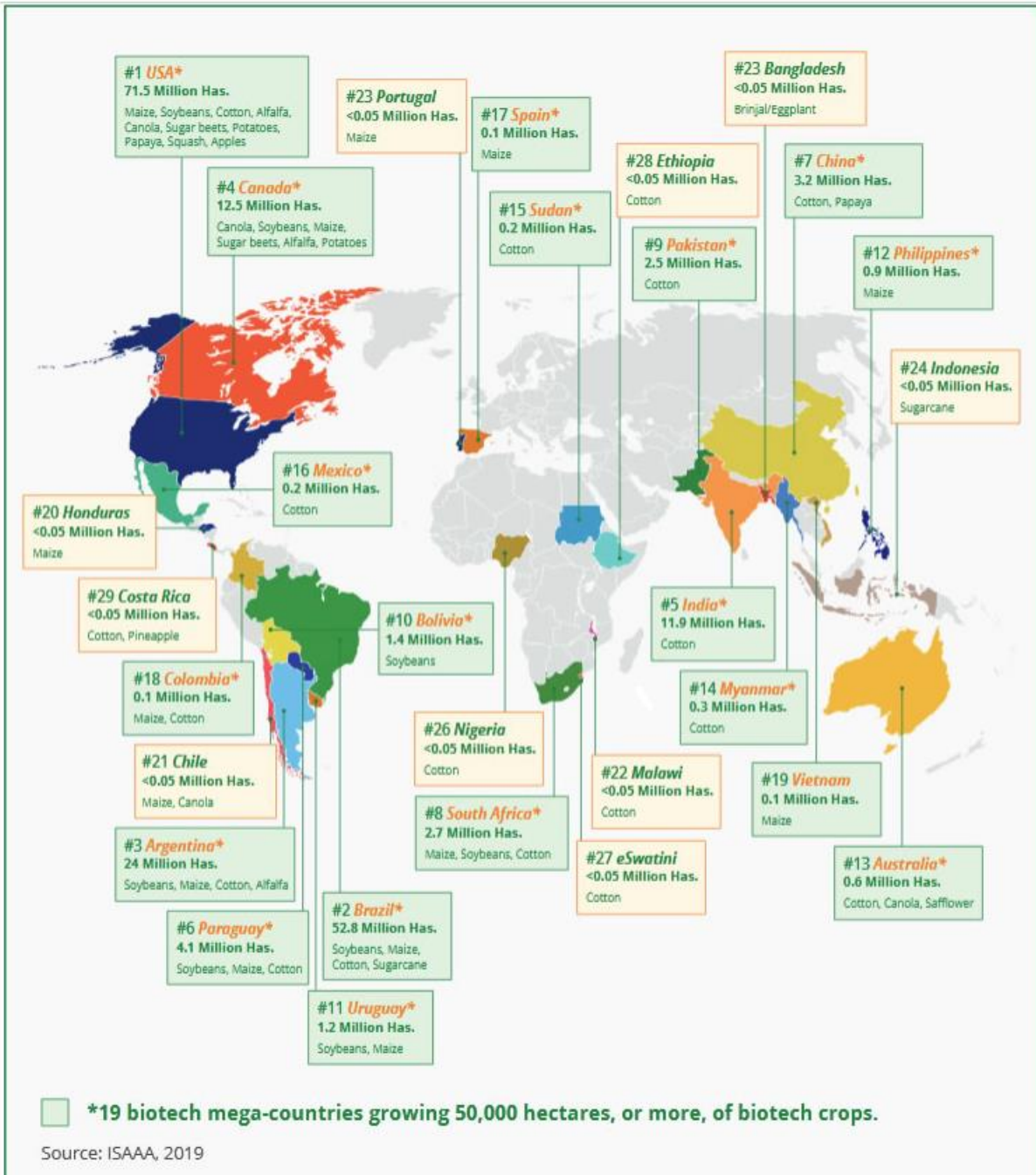
# Adoption of genetically engineered cotton in the United States, by trait, 2000–22

Percent of planted acres



Note: HT indicates herbicide-tolerant varieties; Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) indicates insect-resistant varieties (containing genes from the soil bacterium Bt).

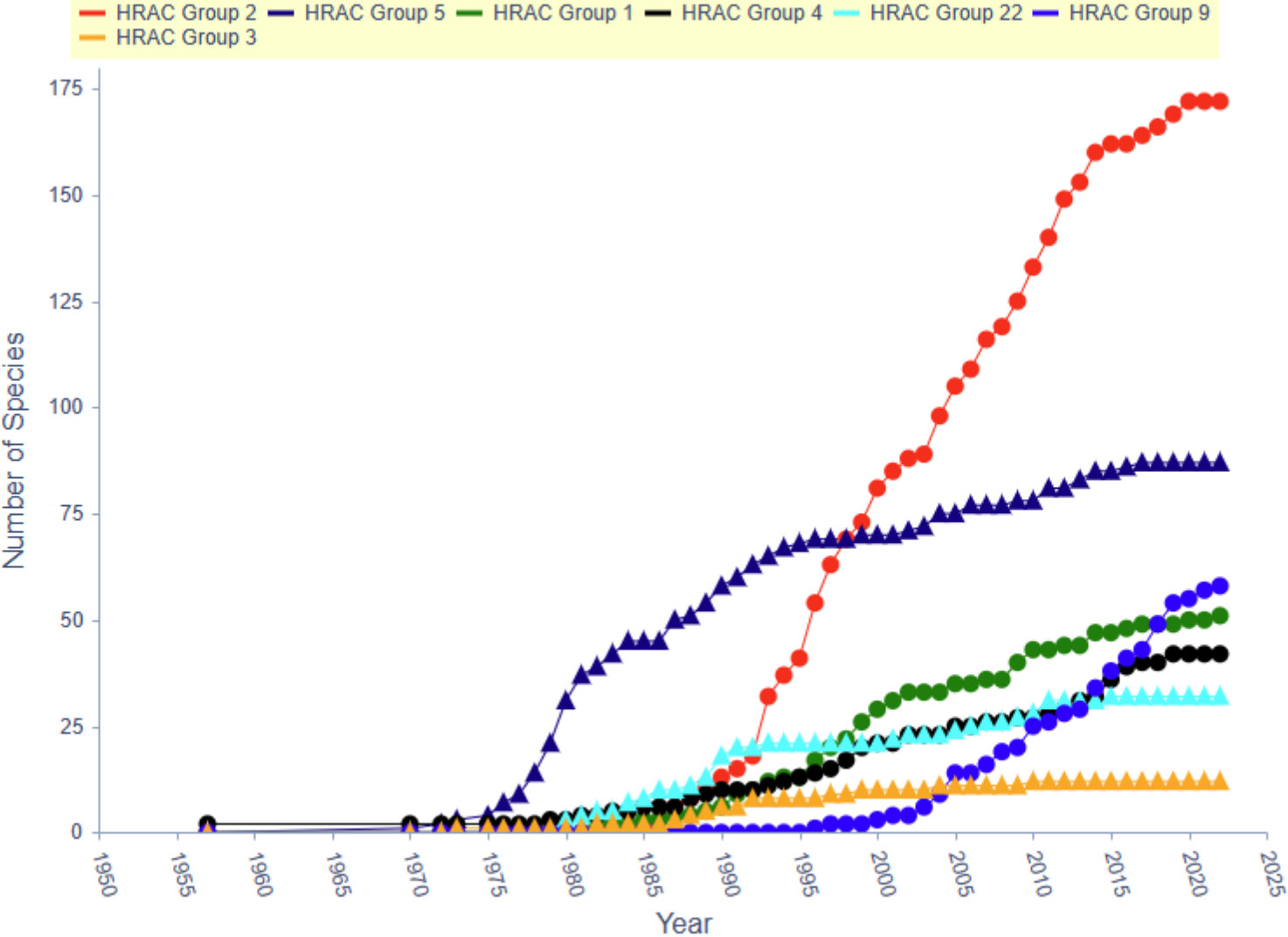
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, (annual) June Agricultural Survey.



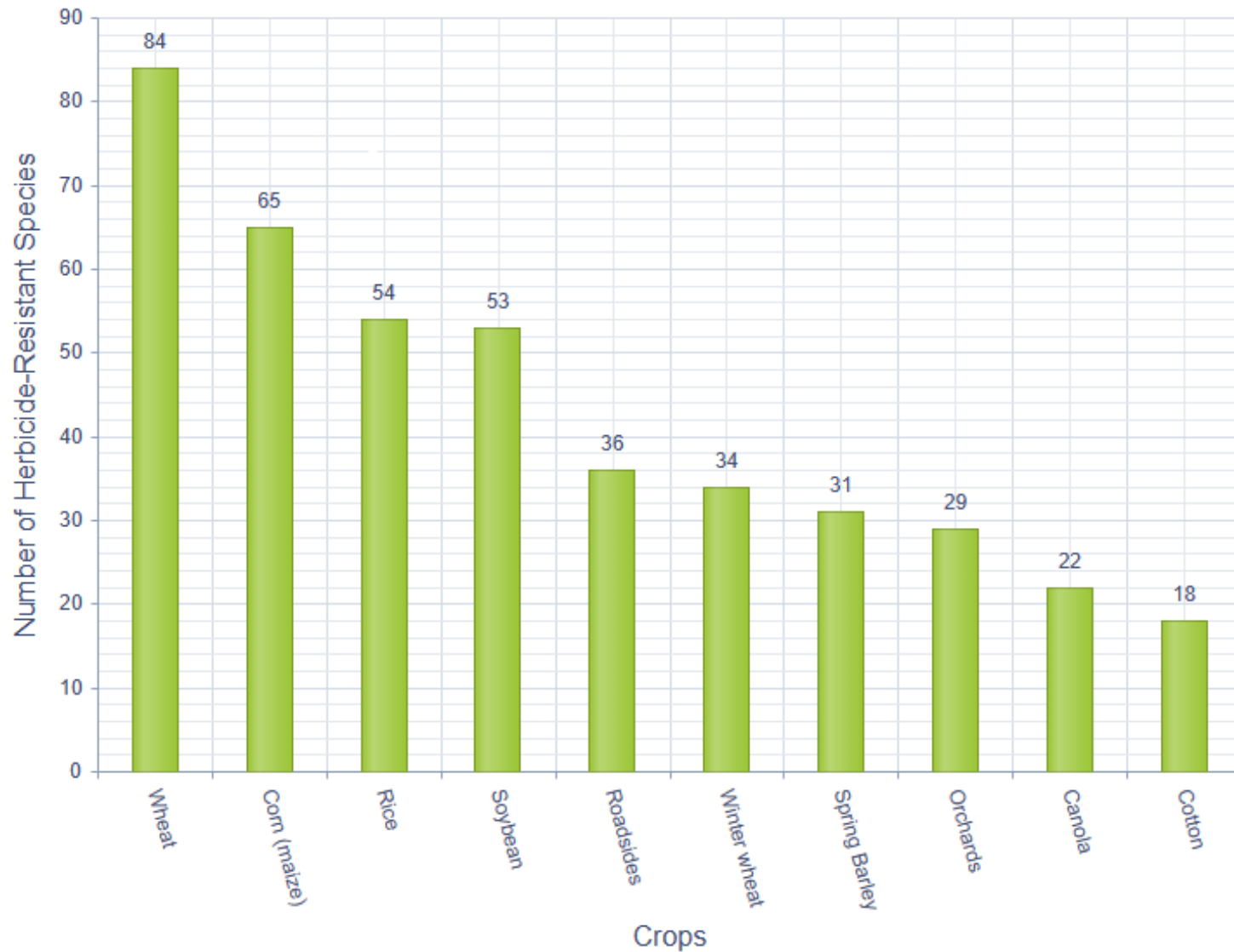
Source: ISAAA, 2019




# Chronological Increase to Resistant Weeds Globally



# Number of Herbicide Resistant Species by crop (top 10)

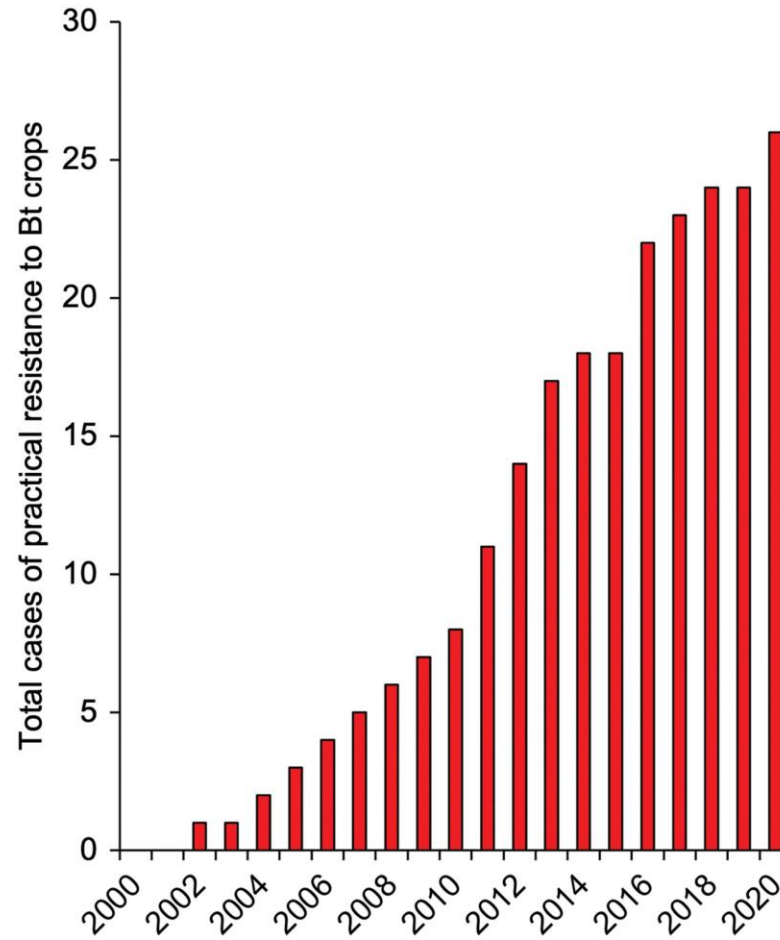




Tabashnik, B. E., Fabrick, J. A., & Carrière, Y. (2023). *Journal of economic entomology*, 116(2), 297-309. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toac183>

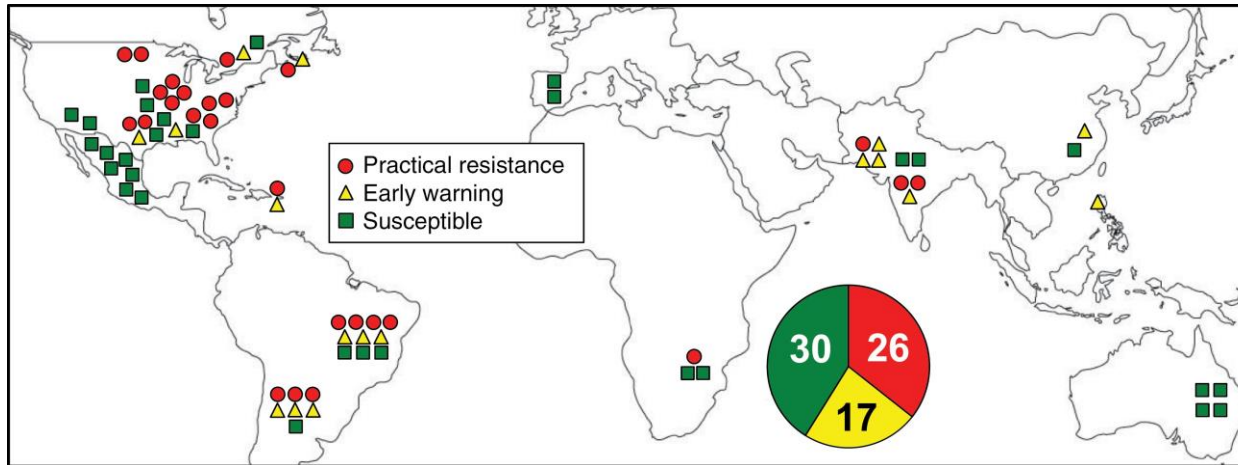
Global Patterns of Insect Resistance to Transgenic Bt Crops: The First 25 Years

**Fig. 2.** Cumulative reported cases of practical resistance to Bt crops.





**Fig. 3.** Global status of field-evolved pest resistance to Bt crops. Each symbol represents 1 of 73 cases indicating ...



# Field Evolved Resistance to Bt Crops in 12 Countries (73 Cases)

**Table 5.**

Field-evolved resistance to Bt crops in 12 countries (73 cases, data from Tables 1–3)

Country	Practical resistance	Early warning	No decrease in susceptibility	Total cases	No decrease in susceptibility (%) <sup>a</sup>
Pakistan	1	3	0	4	0
Philippines	0	1	0	1	0
Argentina	3	3	1	7	14
Canada	2	2	1	5	20
Brazil	4	3	3	10	30
USA <sup>b</sup>	13	3	7	23	30
India	2	1	2	5	40
China	0	1	1	2	50
S. Africa	1	0	2	3	67
Australia	0	0	4	4	100
Mexico	0	0	7	7	100
Spain	0	0	2	2	100

<sup>a</sup>Percentage of cases showing no decrease in susceptibility.

<sup>b</sup>Includes Puerto Rico.



| ANIMALS |

## Monarch butterflies aren't endangered, reversing recent decision. Is that good news?

Data showing the migratory monarch's decline were too precautionary, prompting the IUCN to change its status from endangered to vulnerable.

# Contribution of Biotech Crops to Food Security, Sustainability, and Climate Change Solutions



**INCREASE  
CROP PRODUCTIVITY**  
**US\$225 BILLION**  
FARM INCOME GAINS IN 1996-2018  
GENERATED GLOBALLY BY  
**BIOTECH CROPS**



**CONSERVE  
BIODIVERSITY**  
IN 1996-2018, PRODUCTIVITY GAINED  
THROUGH BIOTECHNOLOGY SAVED  
**231 MILLION HECTARES**  
OF LAND FROM PLOWING AND CULTIVATION



**PROVIDE A BETTER  
ENVIRONMENT**  
DECREASED USE OF CROP  
PROTECTION PRODUCTS BY  
**776 MILLION KGS**  
A GLOBAL REDUCTION  
OF 8.6% IN 1996-2018



**REDUCE CO2 EMISSIONS**  
SAVED 23 BILLION KGS CO2  
EQUIVALENT TO REMOVING  
**15.3 MILLION CARS**  
OFF THE ROAD FOR 1 YEAR



**HELP ALLEVIATE POVERTY AND HUNGER**  
BIOTECH CROPS UPLIFTED THE LIVES OF  
**17 MILLION FARMERS**  
AND THEIR FAMILIES TOTALING  
**>65 MILLION PEOPLE**



Source: Graham Brookes, 2020



# Thoughts to End On

- 2015 Japanese Changed their stack rules (familiarity)
- Genome Editing
- 2020/2021 USDA New Rules
- What have we missed –  
quality traits, small crops





**Thank you!**