

## BIOLOGY DOCUMENTS

A biology document is intended to

- provide background information on the biology of a particular plant species,
- its centres of origin,
- its related species,
- the potential for gene introgression from the plant into relatives, as well as details on the life forms with which it interacts.

The conclusions drawn in a biology document only relate to knowledge and experience of plants with no novel traits of the species concerned. Information on the untransformed species assist in defining the baseline and scope (the comparator against which transformed organisms will be compared). Although, the document is not an environmental risk/safety assessment of the species information in a biology document is used to specifically address the environmental risk/safety of genetically modified or engineered i.e. GM/ GE (transformed) plants. Species specific information will be used to determine whether there are significantly different/altered interactions with other life forms resulting from presence of GM plants.

The information described biology documents are in a format readily accessible to regulators. Biology documents are categorised into several sections ranging from species specific information to information on the potential effects of the crop species on human health and biosafety. The information in the biology document is essentially an assessment of the information applicable to the environmental risk/ safety assessment from collective peer reviewed sources. In addition a complete list of references and appendices are included at the end of the document.

Below is a comprehensive list of published biology consensus documents on commercially released GM crops, as well as those GM crops with potential for commercialisation in South Africa.

### Cassava

- <http://biovisioneastafrica.com/publications/Cassava%20biology%20document.pdf>

### Cotton

- [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2008doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000794A/\\$FILE/JT03257047.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2008doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000794A/$FILE/JT03257047.PDF)

### Maize/ Corn

- <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/bio/dir/dir9411e.pdf>
- [http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/650f3eec0dfb990fca25692100069854/330c90ca0496618fca2574d0001d4dd6/\\$FILE/biologymaize08.pdf](http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/650f3eec0dfb990fca25692100069854/330c90ca0496618fca2574d0001d4dd6/$FILE/biologymaize08.pdf)
- [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2003doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000426E/\\$FILE/JT00147699.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2003doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000426E/$FILE/JT00147699.PDF)

### Potato

- <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/25/62/27854542.pdf>

### Soybean

- <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/bio/dir/t11096e.pdf>
- [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2000doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002C3A/\\$FILE/00085953.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2000doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002C3A/$FILE/00085953.PDF)

### Sugar Beet

- [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2001doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000096E/\\$FILE/JT00118011.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2001doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000096E/$FILE/JT00118011.PDF)

## **Sugar Cane**

- [http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/Content/sugarcane-3/\\$FILE/biologysugarcane.pdf](http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/Content/sugarcane-3/$FILE/biologysugarcane.pdf)

## **Sunflower**

- [http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/2004doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000092F2/\\$FILE/JT00177388.PDF](http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/2004doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000092F2/$FILE/JT00177388.PDF)

## **Wheat**

- [http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/Content/wheat-3/\\$FILE/biologywheat08.pdf](http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/Content/wheat-3/$FILE/biologywheat08.pdf)
- [http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/1999doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002B2A/\\$FILE/04E94444.PDF](http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/1999doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002B2A/$FILE/04E94444.PDF)