

MONSANTO



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MONSANTO COMPANY

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<http://www.monsanto.com>

Bob Stallman
President
American Farm Bureau Federation
600 Maryland Avenue SW
Suite 1000W
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Bob:

Last December, Monsanto committed to continue to engage with stakeholders on the transition of the Roundup Ready® soybean trait (“RR1”) to a post patent market for the generic product. We value your engagement in the transition. With your support and recommendations, Monsanto is continuing to take steps to provide for an orderly transition of the technology to the public domain and make clear that upon expiration of the RR1 patents the technology can be used by seed companies and their farmer customers without any royalty payments to Monsanto.

We are pleased to confirm that Monsanto will extend its commitment to maintain international regulatory support for RR1 from 2017 through 2021. We are in the process of notifying licensees of this extension. As you may know, no new regulatory action is needed in the United States for commercialization of generic seed following the RR1 patent expiration. The extension of international regulatory support gives farmers and the industry more than a decade to develop plans for ongoing support for import approvals in other countries beyond 2021.

We also want to thank you for your support and participation with other stakeholders in an effort to develop an industry-wide solution that can apply to all biotech traits after individual patents expire. The Biotechnology Industry Organization (“BIO”) has initiated this process. As members of BIO, biotech trait developers will collaborate with U.S. farm, commodity, seed, grain processing and exporting organizations to address international registration, stewardship and liability issues for all biotech traits after patents expire. Once a long-term industry solution is in place, we will either use that for RR1 post patent regulatory maintenance or choose to continue providing that support ourselves.

This extension is one more step to assist the industry in the creation of a long-term solution to the question of providing regulatory support. Soybean breeders and seed companies have development and marketing rights that run through patent expiration, which means they are in a position to offer RR1 seeds as a generic product beginning in 2015.

Biotech trait developers that want to develop new, proprietary (patented) stacks with the RR1 trait have a route to market that permits development of those stacks prior to expiration of the RR1 patents. For all stacks other than those involving another glyphosate tolerance event, Monsanto has already enabled multiple channels for on-patent development and commercialization of stacks with the RR1 event (e.g.,

