



No. BT/01/013/2009-PID (NORTH)

Dated: 21.04.2009

### OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Recommendation of the Standing Committee for Bt cotton hybrids expressing four approved events namely Event MON 531 (*cry1Ac*); Event MON 15985 (*cry1Ac - cry2Ab*); GFM (*cry1Ab + cry1Ac*) and JK Event 1 (*cry1Ac*) eligible for commercial release by the State Agriculture Departments in North zone.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) established under Rule-4 of the Rule-1989 has adopted Event based approval mechanism (EBAM) in respect of Bt cotton hybrids expressing approved events in its meeting held on 02.04.2008 and subsequently a new procedure under the EBAM was adopted by the GEAC in its 91<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 14.01.2009. Details of the new procedure adopted under the EBAM is available at GEAC website i.e. [http://www.envfor.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/geac\\_home.html](http://www.envfor.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/geac_home.html). In accordance with the decision taken by GEAC in its meeting held on 14.01.2009, the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoE&F) had constituted a 'Standing Committee' to review the applications for commercial release of Bt cotton hybrids expressing approved events vide O.M. No. 13/39/2007-CS-II dated 17.04.2009. The Standing Committee in its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 17.04.2009 considered applications received from various seed companies for their eligibility for commercialization of Bt cotton hybrids expressing 4 approved events as subjected above.

2. The applications were scrutinized by the Standing Committee as per new procedure for commercial release of Bt cotton hybrids vide Revised O.M. No. 13/39/2007-CS-II dated 17.04.2009 issued by MoE&F for the following:

- Confirmation of gene/ event through molecular characterization by the licensor that the gene/s which is being used is one of the approved events;
- Level of protein expression in green house and field trials;
- Morphological characters using DUS descriptors;
- Bio-efficacy data generated in laboratory conditions;
- Authorization certificate/ No Objection Certificate (NOC) from technology provider in case of sub-licensee.

3. Based on the above new procedure, the Standing Committee has recommended the following Bt cotton hybrids for commercial release in the north zone (Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan) by the State Agriculture Departments subject to terms & conditions laid down by the respective State Department of Agriculture as adopted for conventional (non-Bt) cotton seeds/hybrids or truthfully labeled seeds as per the State Governments procedures.

Sl. No.	Event	Company	Hybrid Number/Name
1	Event MON 531 ( <i>cry1Ac</i> )	M/s. Rasi Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Attur	Shakti- 9Bt
2	"	M/s. Bayer Biosciences Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	SP 7007B1
3	"	M/s. Ankur Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur	Jai Bt. Ankur 3028 Bt, Ankur 8120 Bt

4	Event MON 15985 ( <i>cry1Ac</i> + <i>cry2Ab</i> )	M/s. Kaveri Seed Co. Ltd., Secunderabad	KCH-36 BG-II, KCH999 BG-II, KCH- 14K59 BGII, KCH-15K39 BGII, KCH- 100 BG-II, KCH-172 BG-II, KCH-189 BG-II, KCH-311 BG-II
5	"	M/s. Solar Agrotech Pvt. Ltd., Rajkot	SOLAR- 56 BG-II, SOLAR64 BG-II, and SOLAR 65 BG-II, SOLAR-72 BG-II, SOLAR-75 BGII, SOLAR-76 BG-II, SOLAR-77 BG-II
6	"	M/s. Monsanto Holdings Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	SO7H878 BGII
7	"	M/s. Vibha Agrotech Ltd., Hyderabad	VBCH 1515 BGII, VBCH1516 BGII, VBCH-1517 BGII, VBCH-1518 BGII
8	"	M/s. Rasi Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Attur	RCH-602 BGII, RCH-605 BGII, RCH- 314 BGII
9	"	M/s. Ankur Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur	Jai BG-II, Ankur- 3028 BG-II
10	"	M/s. Bayer Biosciences Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	SP1169B2, SP 7010B2
11	"	M/s. Seed Works India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	SWCH-4707 BG-II, SWCH-4711 BG-II, SWCH-2 BG-II, SWCH-4704 BG-II, SWCH-4713 BG-II
12	"	M/s. Tulasi Seeds Pvt Ltd., Guntur	Tulasi-162 BG-II, Tulasi- 225 BG-II
13	"	M/s. Pravardhan Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	PRCH-302, PRCH-333
14	"	M/s. Vikram Seeds Ltd., Ahmedabad	VICH-307 BG-II, VICH-308 BG-II, VICH-309 BG-II, VICH-310 BG-II
16	"	M/s. Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd., Mumbai	MRC-7361 BG-II, MRC-7365 BG-II
16	JK Event 1 ( <i>cry1Ac</i> )	M/s. JK Agri Genetics Ltd., Hyderabad	JKCH-1950 Bt, JKCH-99 Bt, JKCH-1145 Bt, JKCH-1923 Bt
17	GFM ( <i>cry1Ab</i> + <i>cry1Ac</i> )	M/s. Zuari Seeds Ltd., Bangalore	ZCH-193 Bt
18	"	M/s. Navkar Hybrid Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad	ACH-1005 Bt, ACH-1085 Bt, ACH-1163 Bt, ACH-1177 Bt
19	"	M/s. Uniphos Enterprises Ltd., Mumbai	UPLHH-12 Bt, UPLHH- 271 Bt
20	"	M/s. Uniphos Seeds & Bio- genetics, Secunderabad	UPLHH-342 Bt, UPLHH-350 Bt

4. Both the seed companies and State Agriculture Departments would separately forward one packet containing 450 gm of seeds of each of the recommended hybrids and send to the referral laboratory i.e. Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur. The CICR, Nagpur would do the testing of 10% samples randomly selected from the samples received. Rs. 10,000/- has been fixed as the fee per hybrid which may be deposited to CICR, Nagpur by the seed companies. The company should also provide the event specific primer sequence details to CICR, Nagpur for scientific scrutiny and verification of the claims submitted along with the affidavit/s furnished to the Standing Committee.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

*Rajalakshmi Muralidharan*

(Rajalakshmi Muralidharan)  
Member-Secretary, Standing Committee &  
Scientist-D, DBT

To

1. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Punjab State, Chandigarh.
2. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Haryana State, Chandigarh.
3. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Copy to:

1. The Chairman, GEAC, MoE&F, Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O.Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003.
2. Member-Secretary, GEAC & Director, CS Division, MoE&F, Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O.Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003.
3. The Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
4. Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
5. The Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh.
6. Director of Agriculture, Government of Punjab, Punjab State, Chandigarh.
7. Director of Research, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhaina-141004, Punjab.
8. The Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, Chandigarh.
9. Director of Agriculture, Government of Haryana, Hissar, Haryana.
10. Director of Research, Choudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCSHAU), Hissar-125 004, Haryana.
11. The Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
12. Director of Agriculture, Rajasthan State, Jaipur.
13. Director of Research, Rajasthan Agricultural University (RAU) Campus, Bikaner (Rajasthan) - 334 006.
14. Director of Research, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan-313001.
15. Director, Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Post Box No.2, Shankar Nagar Post, Nagpur 440010 (Maharashtra)

16. Dr. P. Balasubramanian, Director, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore - 641 003.
17. Dr. D. Monga, Head, Regional Station, Central Institute of Cotton Research, Sirsa, Haryana.
18. Dr. K.R. Kranthi, Principal Scientist, Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Post Box No. 2, Shankar Nagar P.O., Nagpur - 440 010.
19. Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, Project Coordinator, All India Cotton Crop Improvement Project (AICCP), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
20. Dr. K.K. Tripathi, Scientist-G & Member Secretary- RCGM, DBT, New Delhi.
21. M/s. Rasi Seeds (P) Ltd., Post Box No-30, 273, Kamarajanar Road, Attur (Taluk), Salem (District) - 636102, Tamil Nadu.
22. M/s. Bayer Bioscience Pvt Ltd., 8-1-39, Qutub Shahi Tombs Road, Toli-Chowki, Hyderabad - 500 008.
23. M/s. Kaveri Seed Co. Pvt. Ltd., # 513 B, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Minerva Complex, S.D. Road, Secunderabad - 500 003.
24. M/s. Solar Agrotech Pvt. Ltd., 'Shyam', 3-Milpara, Kantastri Vikasgruh Road, B/h. Royal Complex, Rajkot - 360 002.
25. M/s Monsanto Holdings Pvt. Ltd., 96, Mahakali Caves Road, Ahura Centre, Vth Floor, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 093.
26. M/s. Vibha Agrotech Ltd., Inspire, Plot # 21, Sector 1, Huda Techno Enclave, Hitech City Road, Madhapur, Hyderabad- 500081.
27. M/s. Ankur Seeds Pvt. Ltd., 27, New Cotton Market Layout, Opp. MSRTC Bus Station, Nagpur - 440 018.
28. M/s. Seed Works India Pvt. Ltd., 437, Avenue-4, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500 034.
29. M/s. Tulasi Seeds Pvt Ltd., # 6-4-6, Arundelpet 4/5, Guntur - 522 002 (A.P.).
30. M/s. Pravardhan Seeds Pvt. Ltd., # 3-4-754, Baghlingampalli, 'X' Roads, Bharkathpura Main Road, Hyderabad - 500 027. (A.P.)
31. M/s. Vikram Seeds Ltd., 209, Ashwamegh Avenue, Near Mithakhali Underbridge, Mayur Colony, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad - 380 009.
32. M/s. Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds-Company Ltd, Resham Bhawan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 78, Veer Nariman Road, Mumbai - 400 020.
33. M/s. JK Agri Genetics Ltd., 1-10-177, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Varun Towers, Begumpet, Hyderabad- 500016.
34. M/s. Zuari Seeds Ltd., # 805, 13<sup>th</sup> 'A' Main, 80 Feet Road, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore - 560 064.
35. M/s. Navkar Hybrid Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Bakar Ali Wadi, Mirzapur Char Rasta, Ahmedabad - 380 001.
36. M/s. Uniphos Enterprises Ltd., Readymony Terrace, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 167, Dr. A.B. Road, Worli Naka, Mumbai - 400 018.
37. M/s. Uniphos Seeds and Bio-Genetics, 203-04-05, Second Floor, # 1-2-166-196, Bhuvana Towers, S.D. Road, Secunderabad - 500 003.
38. Guard file.

*Rajalakshmi*

(Rajalakshmi Muralidharan)  
Member-Secretary, Standing Committee &  
Scientist-D, DBI



No. BT/01/013/2009-PID (NORTH)

Dated: 22.04.2009

### CORRIGENDUM

Subject: Recommendation of the Standing Committee for Bt cotton hybrids expressing four approved events namely Event MON 531 (*cry1Ac*); Event MON 15985 (*cry1Ac* + *cry2Ab*), GFM (*cry1Ab* + *cryAc*) and JK Event 1 (*cry1Ac*) eligible for commercial release by the State Agriculture Departments in North zone.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's O.M. of even no. dated 21.04.2009 on the above subject and to inform that in **Para 3, Sl. No. 11** of the O.M. '**M/s. Seed Works India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad**' has been amended as '**M/s. Seed Works International Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad**'.

2. The other information given in the original O.M. will remain the same.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

(Rajalakshmi Muralidharan)  
Member-Secretary, Standing Committee &  
Scientist-D, DBT

To

1. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Punjab State, Chandigarh.
2. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
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Department of Agriculture,  
Haryana State, Chandigarh.
3. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
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38. Guard file.

*Rajalakshmi*

(Rajalakshmi Muralidharan)

Member-Secretary, Standing Committee &  
Scientist-D, DBT

भारत सरकार

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय

बायोटेक्नॉलॉजी विभाग

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY



ब्लॉक-2.7 वां तल, सी० जी० ओ० कॉम्प्लेक्स  
लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003  
Block-2, 7th Floor C.G.O. Complex  
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

No. BT/01/013/2009-PID (NORTH)

Dated: 04.05.2009

### OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Recommendation of the Standing Committee for Bt cotton hybrids expressing four approved events namely Event MON 531 (*cry1Ac*); Event MON 15985 (*cry1Ac* + *cry2Ab*), GFM (*cry1Ab* + *cryAc*) and JK Event 1 (*cry1Ac*) eligible for commercial release by the State Agriculture Departments in North zone.

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2. The applications were scrutinized by the Standing Committee as per new procedure for commercial release of Bt cotton hybrids vide Revised O.M. No. 13/39/2007-CS-I dated 17.04.2009 issued by MoE&F for the following:

- Confirmation of gene/ event through molecular characterization by the licensor that the gene/s which is being used is one of the approved events;
- Level of protein expression in green house and field trials;
- Morphological characters using DUS descriptors;
- Bio-efficacy data generated in laboratory conditions;
- Authorization certificate/ No Objection Certificate (NOC) from technology provider in case of sub-licensee.

3. In the communications No. SBD/2542/2009 and SBD/2541/2009 dated 15.04.2009 from M/s. Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Co. Ltd. (Mahyco), Mumbai to M/s. Mahyco Monsanto Biotech (India) Ltd., (MMB) and Member Secretary, GEAC respectively, M/s. Mahyco has informed that they have initiated legal proceedings and requested M/s. MMB not to grant NOC to M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Pvt. Ltd., (NSL), Hyderabad and M/s. Prabhat Agri Biotech Ltd. (PAB), Hyderabad in respect of the hybrids similar to M/s. Mahyco's hybrid MRC-7351 and in case M/s. MMB has granted NOC, the same may be kindly revoked. It was also informed that M/s. Mahyco has filed an application under Section 24(5) against M/s. NSL under the provisions of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act, 2001 (PPV&FR) on the ground that M/s. NSL is conducting seed production of a hybrid cotton seed by using parental lines of M/s. Mahyco. The Standing Committee while considering the applications of M/s. NSL and M/s. PAB took into consideration the above mentioned communications received from the M/s. Mahyco and M/s. MMB and decided to defer the decision on the applications as the communications did not clearly indicate whether the technology provider is planning to revoke the permission in respect of PCH 883 Bt 2 or for all hybrids. Subsequent to the meeting of the Standing Committee, M/s. NSL and M/s. PAB have informed that the matter was subjudice only in respect of PCH 883 Bt 2 hybrid in the PPV&FR Authority. M/s. MMB in their letter dated 24.04.2009 had clarified that the cancellation of NOC had been issued only for PCH 883 Bt 2 hybrid and in respect of other hybrids the NOC issued to M/s. NSL and M/s. PAB remain valid. The

Member-Secretary, GEAC vide letter No. C-12017/48/2009-CS-III dated 29.04.2009 addressed to Chairman, Standing Committee had requested to reconsider the applications of M/s. NSL and M/s. PAB for commercial release of Bt cotton hybrids other than PCH 883 Bt 2 hybrid in the North Zone expeditiously. Subsequent to the above communication, the Member-Secretary, GEAC vide letter No. C-12017/48/2009-CS-III dated 01.05.2009 addressed to Chairman, Standing Committee had informed that the Ministry of Environment & Forests received an order from the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh dated 27.04.2009 in WP No. 11317 of 2009 in WP No. 8642 of 2009 filed by M/s. NSL and PAB vs UoI and Ors. directing the regulatory agencies to consider the representations of the Petitioners in accordance with relevant statutory parameters and accord necessary approval as per law, within a period of one week from the receipt of the order.

4. In view of the communications received from GEAC and the order from the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh as mentioned above and based on the e-mail received from Chairman, Standing Committee dated 02.05.2009, the Standing Committee has recommended the following Bt cotton hybrids for commercial release in the **North Zone (Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan)** by the State Agriculture Departments subject to terms & conditions laid down by the respective State Department of Agriculture as adopted for conventional (non-Bt) cotton seeds/hybrids or truthfully labeled seeds as per the State Governments procedures.

Sl. No.	Event	Company	Hybrid Number/Name
1	cry1Ac gene (MON 531)	M/s. Prabhat Agri Biotech Ltd., Hyderabad	PCH 401 Bt, PCH 402 Bt, PCH 403 Bt
2.	cry1Ac & cry2Ab genes (MON 15985)	M/s. Prabhat Agri Biotech Ltd., Hyderabad	PCH-876 Bt2, PCH-877 Bt2, PCH-878 Bt2, PCH-879 Bt2
3.	cry1Ac gene (MON 531)	M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	NCS-901 Bt, NCS-902 Bt, NCS-903 Bt, NCS-904 Bt, NCS-905 Bt
4.	cry1Ac & cry2Ab genes (MON 15985)	M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	NCS- 855 Bt2, NCS-856 Bt2, NCS-857 Bt2, NCS-858 Bt

5. Both the seed companies and State Agriculture Departments would separately forward one packet containing 450 gm of seeds of each of the recommended hybrids and send to the referral laboratory i.e. Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur. The CICR, Nagpur would do the testing of 10% samples randomly selected from the samples received. Rs. 10,000/- has been fixed as the fee per hybrid which may be deposited to CICR, Nagpur by the seed companies. The company should also provide the event specific primer sequence details to CICR, Nagpur for scientific scrutiny and verification of the claims submitted along with the affidavit/s furnished to the Standing Committee.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this letter.



(Rajalakshmi Muralidharan)

Member-Secretary, Standing Committee & Scientist-D, DBT

To

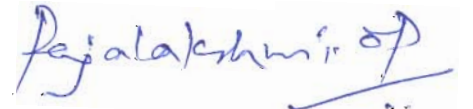
1. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Punjab State, Chandigarh.



2. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Haryana State, Chandigarh.
3. The Agriculture Commissioner/  
Secretary (Agriculture),  
Department of Agriculture,  
Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Copy to:

1. The Chairman, GEAC, MoE&F, Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O.Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003.
2. Member-Secretary, GEAC & Director, CS Division, MoE&F, Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O.Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003.
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19. Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, Project Coordinator, All India Cotton Crop Improvement Project (AICCP), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
20. Dr. K.K. Tripathi, Scientist-G & Member Secretary- RCGM, DBT, New Delhi.
21. M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Pvt. Limited, NSL ICON, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, #8-2-684/2/A, Road No. 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500 034.
22. M/s. Prabhat Agri Biotech Ltd., 6-3-541/B, Opp: Heritage, Punjagutta, Hyderabad - 500 082.
23. Guard file.



(Rajalakshmi Muralidharan)  
Member-Secretary, Standing Committee &  
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