

CROP PROTECTION IN THE FUTURE

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MONSANTO COMPANY

By the year 2020, the global population is expected to increase by more than 40 percent, possibly surpassing the 8 billion mark. Feeding these additional billions, with a limited supply of suitable farmland, poses a dilemma of immense proportions. One answer may lie in agricultural biotechnology, which makes agricultural production more efficient.

As a world leader in plant and animal biotechnology research, Monsanto is finding new ways to protect crops, enhance yields and even improve the processing properties or flavor of foods.

The benefits of agricultural biotechnology are of particular importance to people living in developing nations. There, genetically improved seeds and other products will improve crop yields and quality and make farming possible in areas previously unsuitable for food production.

Among the current genetically improved, value-added products are:

Insect-protected cotton with the Bollgard® gene protects against cotton bollworms, pink bollworms and tobacco budworms. As a result, cotton growers can use significantly less chemical insecticides over their fields. NewLeaf® insect-protected potatoes offer protection against the Colorado potato beetle, the most damaging insect pest in potato crops. YieldGard® insect-protected corn protects against the European corn borer and related insect pests such as the Southwestern corn borer. Soybeans, cotton and canola with the Roundup Ready® gene are genetically improved for tolerance to Roundup® herbicide. These technologies let farmers use this environmentally responsible product for weed control during the growing season, resulting in savings and efficiency for growers. Posilac® bovine somatotropin helps dairy cows produce milk more efficiently, without any loss in quality or natural wholesomeness.

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