

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

From:
Sri T. Peddi Reddy, M.Sc.(Ag.)
State Public Information Officer &
Addl. Director of Agriculture -III,
Office of the Commissioner & Director
of Agriculture, A.P., Hyderabad.

To
Ms Kavitha Kuruganti,
Centre for Sustainable Agriculture,
Tarnaka, Secunderabad.

Letter. No. Prtg. (2)716/2005, Date/7 - 4 - 2006.

Madam,


Sub:- Right to Information Act, 2005 - Furnishing of information on Bt. Cotton
and Pesticides / Insecticides - Reg..

Ref:- Representation Dt.24-2-2006 of Ms Kavitha Kuruganti, Centre for
Sustainable Agriculture, Tarnaka, Secunderabad.

In compliance to the provisions of the Right to Information Act 2005, the
information sought by you vide reference cited is enclosed herewith in respect of item Nos.1, 2
and 3. Regarding item Nos. 4, 5, 6 the information will be furnished to you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Encl : (As above)


State Public Information Officer &
Addl. Director of Agriculture -III

Klg
13/4/06

District wise Bt. Cotton (Boll guard) sales by the seed companies during Kharif 2005 (Sale in Packets, A Packet of 450 Gms each sufficient for one acre)									
S.No.	District	Rasi Seeds P Ltd.		RCH-20Bt	Pro-Agro Pro-Agro-368Bt	Nuziveedu Seeds		Area (acres)	
		RCH-2Bt	240			NCS-145	NCS-207		
1	Vizianagaram		240		0	51	0	291	
2	East Godavari		1050		80	321	118	1569	
3	West Godavari		360		35	269	0	664	
4	Krishna		10600		1230	4595	136	16561	
5	Guntur		64331		5893	4875	1315	79155	
6	Prakasam		0		0	555	27	582	
7	Anantapur		400		0			400	
8	Kurnool		1650		306	1362	22	3471	
9	Kadapa		300		500	11	0	811	
10	Ranga Reddy		7069		3686	3949	251	14955	
11	Nizamabad		2290		110	453	31	6546	
12	Medak		18810		3474	1091	79	23504	
13	Mahabubnagar		6000		2910	3278	206	12394	
14	Nalgonda		11150		1639	2277	307	15373	
15	Warangal		125430		8966	18712	4549	165395	
16	Khammam		54440		3173	4537	775	62925	
17	Karimnagar		40630		5182	2642	495	51530	
18	Adilabad		80530		4495	15657	1291	101973	
19	Srikakulam				0	456	0	456	
	Total		425280		41679	63860	9602	558555	
2)	Farmer details who are doing Limited Field Trials of Bt.Brinjal in A.P								
	Name of the farmer: Sri B.Ramanjaneyulu, S/o Bathkanna Pandipadu (V), Kurnool dist.								
	Survey No: 70								
	Extent of the plot: 17.5 cents								

Performance Report overall Report

Bt. Cotton Comparison to Non Bt. Cotton

		B.T. Cotton	Non B.T. Cotton
1	Crop growth conditions during Kharif, 2005	Suffered from excess moisture resulting in poor growth	Suffered from excess moisture resulting in excess vegetative growth
2	Incidence of Pests & diseases	Moderate sucking pests, Spodoptera followed by black arm disease	Low incidence of sucking pests and Spodoptera
3	Yields/expected per Hectare	10-15 Qtls depending on soil type and climatic conditions.	8-10 Qtls. depending on soil type and climatic conditions
4	Quality of Kapas	Good	Moderate
5	Present Market price of Bt. Cotton	Rs. 1900 - 2350 per Qtl.	Rs. 1900 - 2350 per Qtl.
6	Cost of cultivation	Rs. 18250 per Hectare	Rs. 20000 per Hectare
7	Reduction in cost of cultivation	Rs. 2000	Rs. 1250
8	Remarks:-	This year is being the very peculiar as there was continuous rains till the end of September as such no incidence of Heliothis was seen.	This year is being the very peculiar as there was continuous rains till the end of September as such no incidence of Heliothis was very low. As such no additional sprayings were required.
		The incidence of Spodoptera is moderate	The incidence of Spodoptera is moderate to high
		The incidence of Sucking pests is moderate for which sprayings were taken up	The incidence of Sucking pests is low only 1 or 2 sprayings were taken up.
		Black arm disease was seen and Tobacco streak virus was also seen here and there.	No specific disease are seen
		Boron deficiency is very much seen	Boron deficiency is seen.

Initiatives taken for supply of quality Bt.cotton hybrid seed in the State:

- On introduction of Bt.cotton hybrids by M/s. Mahyco with permission of GEAC for their hybrids, MECH-12Bt, 162Bt & 184Bt, Bt cotton cultivation era has started in A.P.
- Due to genetic impurity and non-adoptability, these hybrids have not fared well in certain districts of A.P. in 2004. Accordingly, based on the complaints lodged by the farmers, the issue was dealt under MoU and following compensations were awarded.

Sno.	District	Area (ha)	Farmers (nos.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount already paid
1	Warangal	22130.39	16220	33112596.00	17704312.00
2	Krishna	95.43	80	248150.00	248150.00
3	Medak	78.00	59	690234.00	690234.00
4	Prakasam	68.46	89	1918525.00	1918525.00
5	Khammam	208.00	260	2769000.00	2769000.00
	Total	22580.28	16708	38738505.00	23330221

- During 2004, 1400 Seed Inspectors notified under Seeds Act, 1966 & Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 were deployed and were equipped with seed Inspector kits and Bt.Express kit to regulate the quality of unauthorised Bt. by sample inspection and detection of Bt.protein.
- Complaints were received from farmers of Khammam, Nalgonda, Adilabad and Karimnagar districts regarding poor germination of NCS-145 Bunny Bt. hybrid cotton of M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd, in the year 2005, Accordingly following amount of compensation was paid to the farmers by the firm.

Sno.	District	Area (ha)	Farmers (nos.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount already paid
1	Adilabad	2750	2599	16123750	6164838
2	Karimnagar	680	2456	*Cost of seed replaced	3090600
3	Nalgonda	1683	1026	3648984	2721546
4	Khammam	22027	1854	12954702	7017400
	Total	7669	7935	32727436	18994384

- In the year 2005, a special drive was constituted at State level and district level at Processing & Packing Centres to detect non-Bt possessing Bt.protein and to detect the Bt.seed lots with inadequate Bt. protein to curb the flow of substandard seed. Accordingly 131 no. of samples of Bt.cotton were drawn and tested out of which 3 seed samples were declared substandard at notified Seed Testing Labs and 112 samples were drawn and sent to CICR, Nagpur for Bt.protein quantification, out of which 56 seed samples were declared substandard in the year 2005-06 and action is being taken on all such defaulters.
- 73qtls –unauthorised Bt.cotton seed worth Rs.36.64 lakhs were seized and 57 persons were arrested connected with illegal seed business resulting to suspension of 1 seed licence and cancellation of 11 seed dealers licences. (5 licences cancelled due to sale of unauthorised Bt.cotton)
- Special squads were formed at State level to visit Seed Processing, packing and labelling centers to curb the menace of packing of substandard seed lot of Bt.hybrid cotton seed, which does not conform to the prescribed standards.
- From Kharif 2006 onwards it is decided to implement a Pre-Release Quality Assurance Scheme to evaluate seed lots randomly meant for marketing for quality assessment of Physical Purity, Moisture & Germination analysis & Bt. Protein quantification.
- Separate allocation of target of 400 (nos) of Bt.Cotton samples was included in the focused seed sample targets for the year 2006-07.

- The two notified labs located at Rajendranagar and Yemmiganur are being equipped with infrastructure for ELISA method of quantification of Bt.protein to evaluate the status of Bt.protein and to declare sample as substandard in the event of non-conformation to the prescribed standards and to take action against such seed dealers and producers.
- First time in the Country, Govt.of A.P, Department of Agriculture is setting up a DNA Finger Printing Unit to evaluate transgenic status of crop varieties and to expedite the results briskly with high precision.
- Beside above realizing the root cause of flow of illegal Bt. is high cost of seed which is governed by exorbitant trait value of Rs.1250/- per 450 gms packet imposed by technology developer M/s. Monsanto Company, a petition is filed with MRTP Commission as initial effect of this move M/s. Monsanto has already reduced trait value to Rs.900/- per packet 450 gms.
- In case, the pray of Govt. of A.P to reduce the trait value to 1/3rd cost of bare seed is accepted, the MRP would be round about Rs.600 to Rs.700/- only.

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