USDA Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Global regulations on microbial biotechnology in food and agriculture

The Future of Microbial Biotechnology Workshop

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New Technologies and Production Methods

Outline

1) Who are USDA FAS and New Tech
2) Global regulatory environment
3) Future of microbial biotech in food and feed

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Who is FAS?

- Eyes, ears, voice of U.S. agriculture overseas
- Economists, Trade & Marketing Specialists, Scientists, other SMEs
- 93 International offices covering 171 countries

Programs and services

- Trade Policy
- Market Development and Export Assistance
- Data and Analysis
- Food Security

New Technologies and Production Methods Division

- Team of Trade Policy Specialists and Scientists
- A fundamental mission to maintain and open market access for U.S. food and ag. exports
- Specific focus to facilitate U.S. exports of biotechnology products for food and agriculture

FAS/New Tech maintains and expands market access for food and ag. biotech products

- Monitor regulatory developments and changes around the world and advocate for science-based and risk-proportionate regulations
- Coordinate with like-minded countries to improve landscape for products of ag. biotechnologies
- Create and support programming to inform ag. biotech discussions globally

Source: USDA flickr

USDA FAS Embassy Activities

Stakeholders join the center's ribbon-cutting ceremony in Nueva Ecija.

Philippines: Philippines First in World to Approve Golden Rice for Propagation

July 26, 2021 | Attaché Report (GAIN) | RP2021-0042

Contact: Office of Agricultural Affairs, Manila | (011-632) 301-4900

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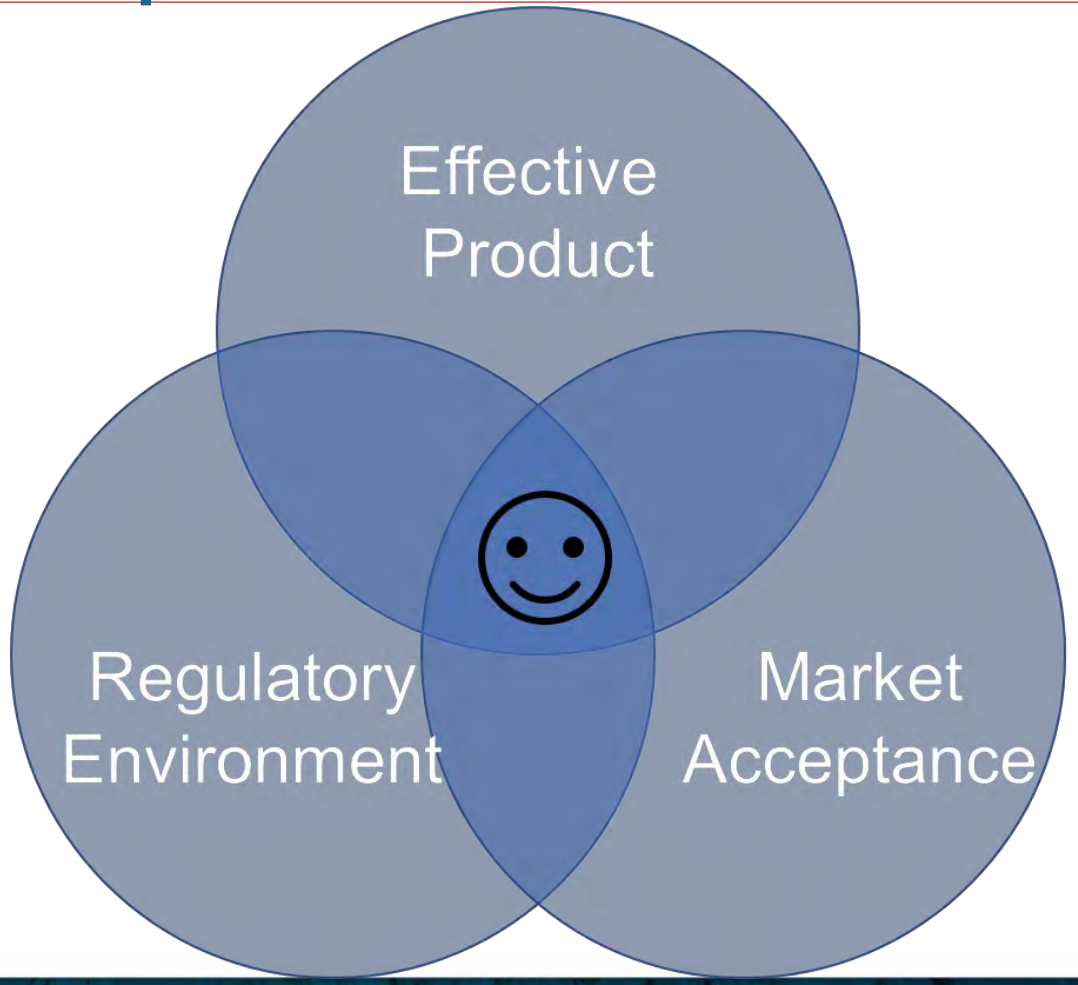
Three factors to global success for commercial products



The Regulatory Environment

- Regulations
- Standard setting bodies
- International agreements and treaties
- Intended use

Case comparison: PRC and Canada

People's Republic of China

- Only purified enzymes allowed into food or feed
- Enzyme must be whitelisted
- No label required when the purified enzyme is incorporated into food or feed

Canada

- Enzymes, proteins, other ingredients*
- Must be on food additives list
- Labels not required on purified products

*derived from GE microbes not treated differently than conventional

Standard-setting bodies and international organizations' guidelines for food and feed

- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
  - Various Codex Alimentarius Committees, primarily on Food Additives
  - Guidelines for safety assessments of foods produced using rDNA microorganisms
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
  - Previous work on non-food GEMs
  - Microorganism section in Working Group for the Safety of Novel Foods and Feeds

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Countries leading food innovation

TRADITIONAL USE

- The United States
- The United Kingdom
- Switzerland
- Canada
- France
- Italy
- Germany
- China
- Indonesia
- India
- Ireland

EMERGING USE

- The United States
- The United Kingdom
- Switzerland
- Canada
- France
- Italy
- Japan
- China
- Israel
- Singapore
- Netherlands

Thank You!

Thank you! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have questions or comments for the New Tech team!

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