Monsanto scientist: GMO crops increase rate of yield gain, media misinterpreted NAS report

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

On May 17, the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) released a new report, "Genetically Engineered Crops: Past Experience and Future Prospects." . . . .

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The report states, "The nation-wide data on maize, cotton, or soybean in the United States do not show a significant signature of genetic-engineering technology on the rate of yield increase.". . .[this] is taken as evidence that GE traits so far have not significantly contributed to increases in yield. That conclusion is both confusing and inaccurate.

. . . . The rate of yield gain in any given year is influenced by . . . multiple factors. . . it is expected that gains caused by some factors will be offset or masked by declines caused by others.

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. . . . We charted the USDA-NASS yield data . . . over a 10-year period before the GE crop was introduced, and after the GE crop had reached 50% penetration. . . .There is clear evidence of an increase in the rate of yield gain after 50% penetration of GE corn, GE cotton and GE sugar beet. . . . There is minimal impact in GE soybean. . .

Read full, original post: The Nuances of Analyzing Yield Data