

Argentina's soy farmers, seed sellers near agreement on GMO seed royalties

Argentine soy farmers and the companies that sell them genetically modified seeds could be close to a breakthrough in negotiations after a months-long deadlock that prompted Monsanto to stop selling new GMO technology in the country.

The negotiator representing seed companies in talks with farmers over a bill pending in Congress said ... that both sides are ready to move toward a deal that would extend the period of time that growers would have to pay royalties on genetically modified seeds.

The government-backed bill says farmers will pay royalties for three seasons after the initial purchase of GMO seeds. But the companies want royalties to be paid for a longer period, according to Alfredo Paseyro, the negotiator for ASA, the group representing seed companies including Monsanto Co.

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Monsanto has said it is not selling new technology in Argentina until a royalties deal is reached. This threatens to put Argentine farmers at a disadvantage against their Brazilian and U.S. competitors.

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Almost all the soy grown in Argentina is genetically modified. Most of the seeds are bought on the black market or GMO beans used as seeds without paying royalties.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Argentina soy farmers, seed sellers see progress in royalty talks](#)