Vietnam mulling crop GMO response to climate change

Agricultural bio-technology policies, promotion of public-private partnerships in agricultural bio-technology research and applications and the use of agricultural bio-technology in response to climate change were on the agenda of the annual APEC High-Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (HLPDAB) Meeting in Can Tho.

Dr Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy, director general of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development's department of science, technology and environment, who is HLDPAB chair this year, said climate change has exacerbated the challenges to agricultural, especially in the most vulnerable economies and geographies.

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Many parts of Vietnam are suffering from the severe consequences of extreme weather.

In seeking to meet the increasing demand for food, modern agriculture is using new technologies such as bio-technology to facilitate the development of new varieties.

"We recognise that bio-technology provides a set of powerful tools for the sustainable development of agriculture, fisheries and forestry, as well as the food industry," she said.

"Modern bio-technologies have proven to be successful means for the micropropagation of virus-free plants, and have provided plant disease diagnostic kits, marker-assisted selection and a whole range of well-known techniques to improve agricultural productivity."

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: Bio-technology, a powerful tool for sustainable agriculture: Apec