

Pakistan suspends GMO corn imports, field trials to protect crop exports from 'contamination'

Pakistan has imposed a ban on further trials of Genetically Modified (GM) maize for [an] unspecified period in a bid to avoid natural crop contamination that can subsequently hurt maize exports, an official statement said.

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It has been intimated through official correspondence that all biosafety licenses [for the] import and field trials of GM corn in the country [have] been suspended along with all related activities.

After slapping a ban on [importation] of GM corn seeds and other associated activities, [the government said] trials of bio-engineered maize will come to a standstill.

Earlier, [the] Ministry of National Food Security & Research after holding extensive consultation with stakeholders [issued] a verdict against granting permission to [plant] genetically engineered crops. [The] government will not allow the use of biotechnology for developing seeds of food crops.

During the consultation, most of the stakeholders were of the view that there was no significant yield increase or reduction in production cost by adopting the GM seeds.

Read full, original article: [Pakistan freezes GM corn trials on contamination fears](#)