

## Bayer faces expensive lawsuit in Brazil as more farmers challenge firm's GMO soy patent

Germany's Bayer AG, which completed the takeover of U.S.-based Monsanto [in 2018], has been dealt a legal blow in Brazil as more farmers joined a lawsuit challenging the protection of a key soy seed patent.

A Brasília appeals court authorized producers from another 10 states to join Mato Grosso state farmers as plaintiffs in a case challenging the validity of Monsanto's Intacta RR2 PRO patent, according to court filings .... That means Bayer, which had been ordered to deposit royalties received from the Mato Grosso growers in an escrow account, will have to do the same with royalties from the new plaintiffs

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Royalties from Intacta sales in Mato Grosso were an estimated 800 million reais (\$211 million) per harvest, Souza said. When royalties from farmers in the other 10 states are accounted for, the amount to be deposited in a judicial account could rise to as much as 2.7 billion reais, he said.

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