USDA promotes new rules to improve seed industry competition and enhance resiliency of America's food supply chains

On March 6, 2023, the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") released a new report: "

More and Better Choices for Farmers: Promoting Fair Competition and Innovation in Seed and other

Agricultural Inputs." This report responded to President Biden's July 9, 2021, Executive Order, "Promoting Competition in America's Economy," that asked the USDA and other federal agencies to analyze competition issues.

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Ultimately, the USDA's stated goal is to improve fair competition in the seed industry, enhance the resiliency of America's food and agricultural supply chains, and provide economic opportunities in America's agricultural communities.

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In conclusion, the USDA's new initiatives aim to help all stakeholders — including plant breeders, farmers, and seed companies — understand and engage with the intellectual property system and the overlapping mechanisms that control how seed varieties and traits are developed, sold, and distributed. Ultimately, the agency hopes these initiatives will help foster more choices and increased innovation across crops and regions.

This is an excerpt. Read the original psot here