Decision for the Safety Assessment of MONSANTO's Cotton MON15985 x MON88913

For renewal for direct use as food and feed or for processing

Monsanto Philippines, Inc submitted an application to renew cotton MON15985 x MON 88913 for direct use as food and feed or for processing to the Bureau of Plant Industry on December 20, 2010. Monsanto Philippines, Inc has provided latest scientific studies in support of the safety claims to renew the biosafety notification for direct use as food and feed or for processing. A dossier of relevant scientific studies on cotton MON15985 x MON88913 were provided to the Scientific Technical Review Panel (STRP) who reviewed all the submissions to determine the safety of cotton MON15985 x MON88913 to human and animal health.

The scientific data and information relevant to the application of Monsanto Philippines, Inc were reviewed by the Scientific Technical Review Panel who concluded that cotton MON15985 x MON88913 and all progenies from crosses of this product for direct use as food and feed or for processing are as safe and substantially equivalent to its unmodified counterpart.

Monsanto Philippines Inc. has published the Public Information Sheet (PIS) in two newspapers: The Daily Tribune and Malaya on May 20, 2011pursuant to Memorandum Circular No. 6, Series of 2007. The Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) has not received any comments during the comment period for the renewal of cotton MON15985 x MON88913 for direct use as food and feed or for processing.

Monsanto Philippines Inc. has satisfactorily complied with all requirements for the renewal of cotton MON15985 \times MON88913 for direct use as food and feed or for processing. The BPI Biotechnology Core Team reviewed the results of the assessment of the STRP. The results of the final review concluded the safety of cotton MON15985 \times MON88913, which was therefore recommended for its renewal for direct use as food and feed or for processing.

A biosafety notification renewal for cotton MON15985 x MON88913 and all progenies from crosses of this product for direct use as food and feed or for processing was issued to Monsanto Philippines, Inc. on April 20, 2011. The biosafety notification indicated that no interactions were found between the stacked traits, hence the cotton MON15985 x MO88913 is as safe for human food, livestock feed and for processing as its conventional cotton and can substitute for its traditional counterpart for direct use as food and feed or for processing.

Cotton MON15985 x MON88913 will be included in the Approval Registry for direct use as food, feed or for processing being prepared by the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Plant industry.