



**Phytosanitary seed issues: Perspective from the SAA**  
***"Facilitating seed trade in the Americas"***

*NAPPO seed health workshop  
Riverdale, USA - July 2015*

# SAA



*Was created in 2005 and is a non governmental organization that fully represents the interests of the Seed Industry in the Americas*

# SAA Members



Argentina:	Asociación de Semilleros Argentinos (ASA)
Brasil:	Associação Brasileira de Sementes e Mudas (ABRASEM)
Canadá:	Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA)
Chile:	Asociación Nacional de Productores de Semillas (ANPROS)
México:	Asociación Mexicana de Semilleros (AMSAC)
Estados Unidos:	American Seed Trade Association (ASTA)
Paraguay:	Asociación de Productores de Semillas del Paraguay (APROSEMP)
Perú:	Asociación Peruana de Semillas (APPIS)
Uruguay:	Asociación Uruguaya de Obtentores Vegetales (URUPOV)
Venezuela:	Asociación Venezolana de Semillas (AVESEM)

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## *SAA Vision statement:*



“The Seed Association of the Americas is the globally recognized leading authority, representing with a unified voice, all common interests for the seed industry in the Americas”.

# *What we do?*



The main purposes of the SAA, are to educate and support development, marketing and free movement of the seed within the Americas and advocate seed industry legislation and regulation issues as to ensure plant property rights.

# Objectives

- To promote and consolidate the integration between the members of the “Seed Chain” within the Americas, in order to share ideas and business.
- To promote the discussion between the public and private sector of the different countries towards harmonization of legislations in order to promote growth of the industry and adoption of new technologies.
- To contribute to achieve a better understanding of the importance that science based regulations are critical support of future agriculture.
- To facilitate de regional attendance at organizations like: UPOV, ISTA, FAO and OECD.
- To strengthen relations and discussions with other seed associations such us: ISF, FELAS, AFSTA, APSA, ESA.

# *SAA regional and global*



Observer members:

- UPOV
- IPPC (FAO)

Seed industry representative at:

- Phytosanitary: NAPPO and COSAVE
- Seed LLP project with IICA & CLI
- Ministries of agriculture council - CAS (AR, BR, BO, CL, PY, UY)

# Working groups



- › Trade and Regulations:
  - › *Phytosanitary*
  - › *Biotechnology*
  - › *Seed Treatment*
- › Intellectual Property
- › Membership and Operations



# *Background on seed trade*



# *Background... seed trade*



› The seed industry is indeed an international business. Many seed companies have facilities and operations in many countries; many seed companies produce seed counter-seasonally to meet market needs in different hemispheres.

› Because of the global nature of the industry, seed is frequently moved into and out of many countries. Every time seed is moved, it must meet with the requirements of each country involved.

# Background... seed trade



- › Seeds are not just moved as commercial products; they are also moved in pre-product stages such as research seed, stock seed, foundation seed, etc.
- › Companies depend on the availability of seed in all stages of production and commercialization.
- › One lost, held, or rejected shipment could result in huge monetary losses.
- › Therefore regulatory systems need to be harmonized and predictable so companies know what needs to be done to comply with the requirements of all countries involved.

# The Americas Context

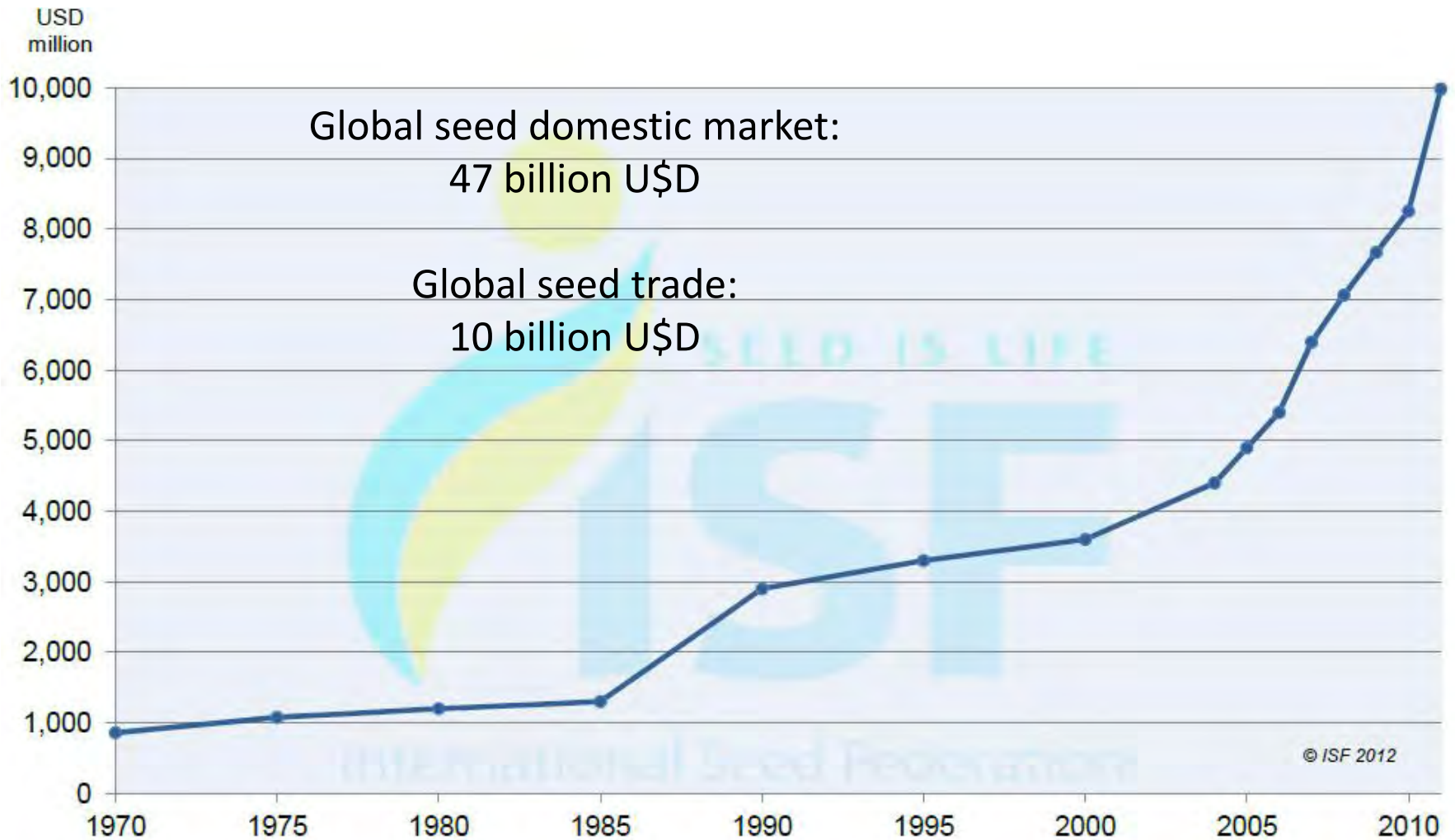


- › The Americas are one of the largest producers and exporters of seed
- › Ninety-five percent of the world's biotech crops are planted in the Americas
- › The demand for grain produced in the Americas is expected to increase as populations and consumption increases
- › **Movement of seed within the Americas is KEY**

# *Seed trade in the world and in the region*

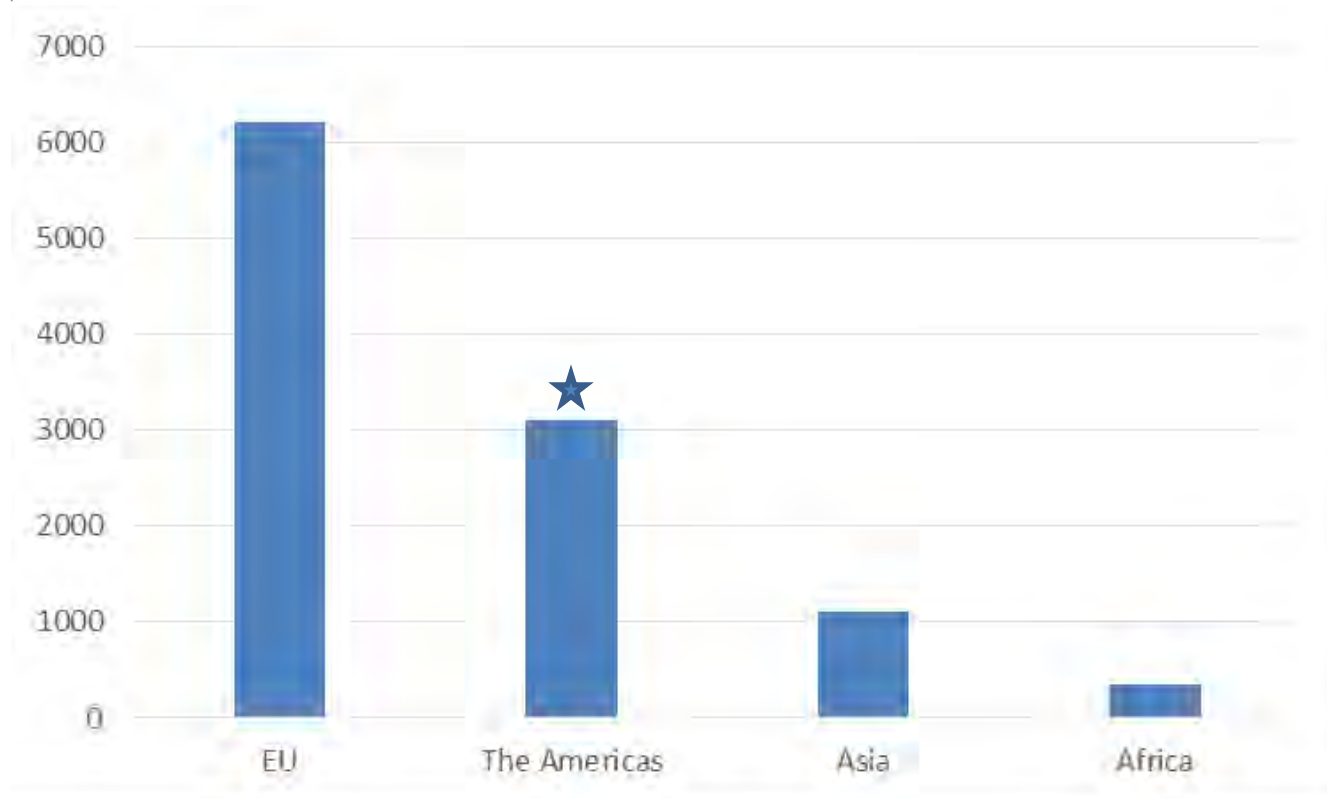


# World seed export worldwide 1970-2011



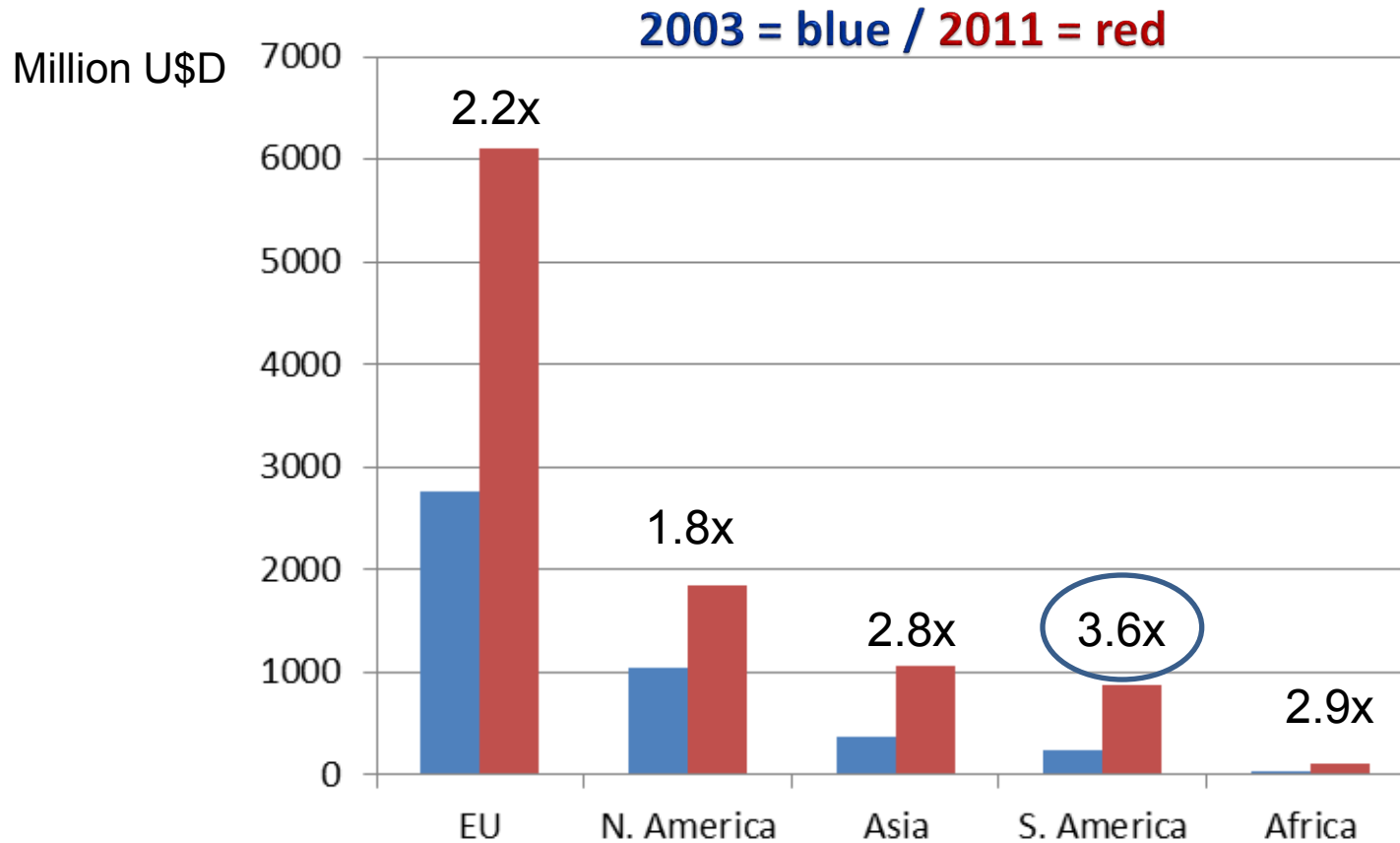
# Seed exports by continent (2011)

Million USD



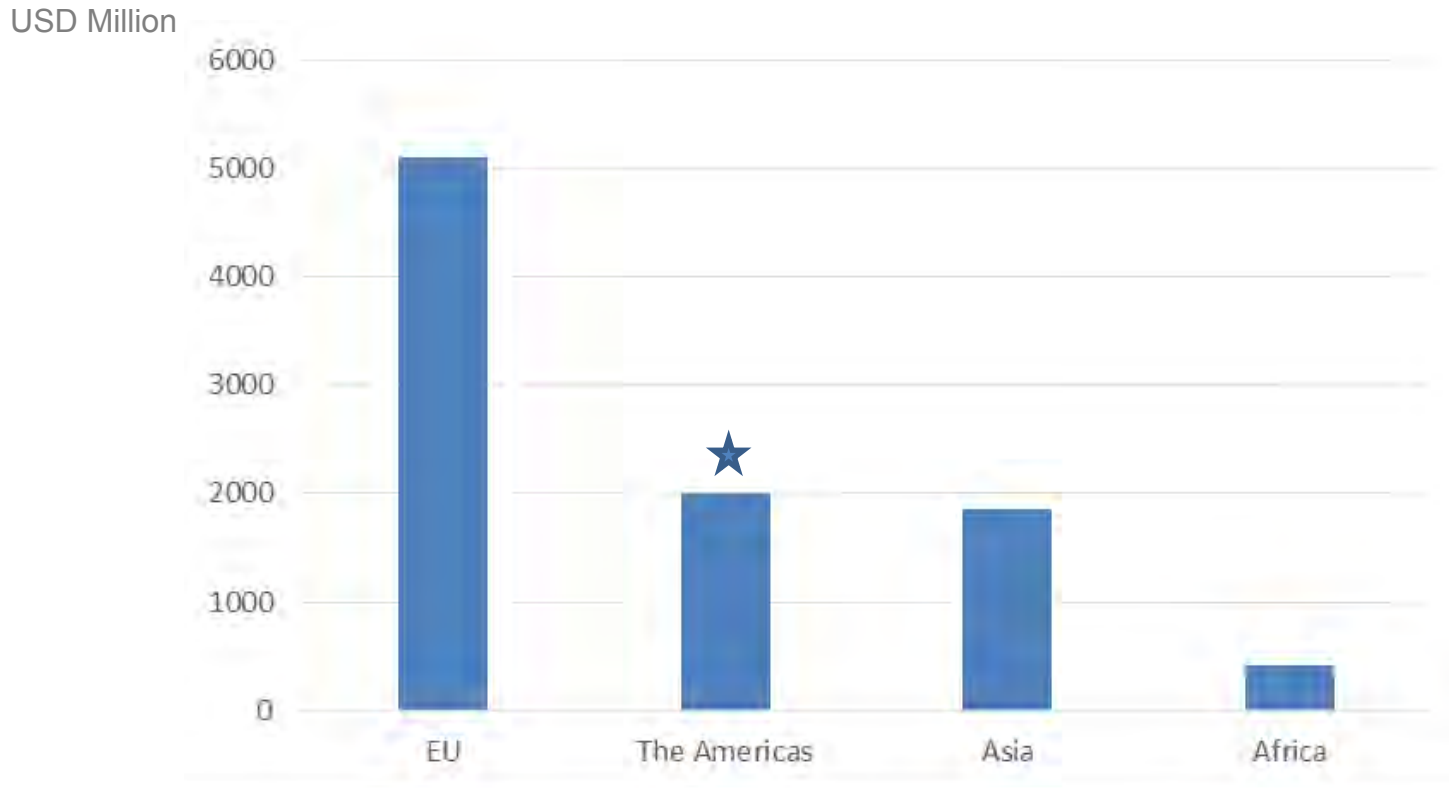
# Growth rate:

## Seed exports by continent:

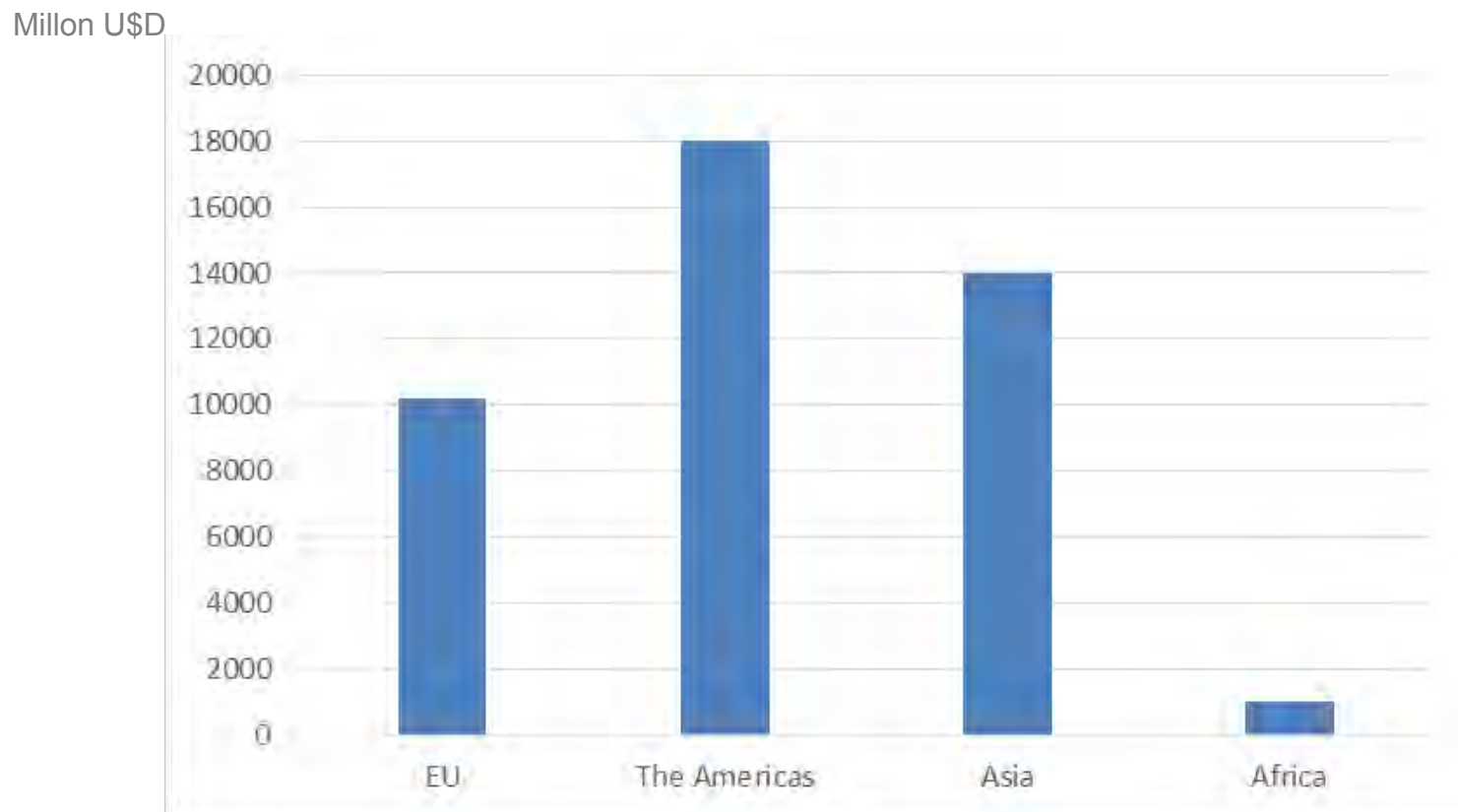




# Seed Imports by continent -2011-



# Seed domestic market- 2012



Source: ISF 2012

# World seed trade and regional seed trade

*(U\$D billion)*

	<b>World</b>	<b>AMERICAS</b>	<b>%</b>
Domestic market	45	18	40
Exports	10	3	30

# ***SAA Phytosanitary Working Group***



# Phyto Working Group Members

Carlos Rodes, Syngenta  
Lorena Basso, Basso Seeds  
Patricia Zabaleta, Dow  
Jesus Alcazar, Monsanto  
Natalia Fernandez, Monsanto  
Jill Achor, Dow  
Teresita Jordan, Dow  
Lisa Shepherd, Iowa State University  
Miriam Murillo, Syngenta  
Cristina Alucema, HyTech Production Ltd.  
Jennifer Rashet, Monsanto  
Darrell Dziver, Brett Young Seeds  
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D. Bayce, CUS (Uruguay)  
Scott Horner, HyTech Prod'n, Ltd.  
Diego Risso  
Patty Townsend, CSTA  
Dave Carey, CSTA

# *Phytosanitary Working Group*

## **Mission**

Harmonization of Phytosanitary requirements for the movement of seed within and external to the Americas.

## **Objectives**

1. Regional and international guidelines to establish phytosanitary measures on the movement of seeds.
2. A pest list has been developed for the Americas.
3. Improved process for PRA

# *Objectives*

**Regional and international guidelines to establish phytosanitary measures on the movement of seeds.**

**NAPPO:** RSPM 36 Phytosanitary Guidelines for Movement of Seed

**COSAVE :** Been harmonized phytosanitary requirements for several seed species.

**IPPC:** Draft ISPM: International movement of seeds

# Objectives

**A pest list has been developed for the Americas.**

SAA WG has identified nearly 40 pest of 7 species.

The key point of the pest list are:

- *Distinguish seed borne and seed transmitted pest*
- *Evaluate testing methods used for seed health.*
- *Identify treatments and processes to mitigate risks from seed borne*



# Objectives

## Improved process for PRA

Is necessary to make the PRA process more efficient

- Support with information for improved Pest Risk Assessment
- Looking for a more efficient phytosanitary measures
- Promote seed as “low risk” in regional and international meetings.

# *Where are we now?*

Conducting a survey among SAA members to get feedback about their priorities, commitment & update goals.

Meeting in Mexico next September



# Workshop on Phytosanitary

Brasilia, Brazil - September 29, 30



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Phytosanitary

Montevideo, Uruguay - September 22, 23



# *How regulations should look like?*

- › Predictable
- › Transparent
- › Science-based
- › Risk proportional system

*Therefore:*

*it is important to build a fluid,  
open and frank dialogue  
between industry and  
regulators*

# *SAA: facilitating trade with a science based strategy*



- › Apply scientifically sound regulations
- › Make the regulations easily available
- › Keep regulations updated
- › Keep in constant communication with regulatory offices in other countries
- › Enforce regulations consistently
- › Strengthen relationship and communication

All countries need the highest quality seed possible to meet their demands for food, fiber, and fuel; therefore it is in the best interests of both the industry and governments to work together to find ways to facilitate the “safe” international movement of seeds while providing the necessary access to their countries of the latest technologies.

*Adapted from R. Ranghanatan – ISF 2011*

# 5<sup>th</sup> Seed Congress of the Americas

Promoting Seed Business in the Americas



**SAA** Seed Association of the Americas

**AMSAC**  
ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA DE SEMBREROS, A.C.

Promoting Seed Business in the Americas  
September 8 - 10, 2015 / Cancun / Mexico

*Thank you for your attention!*

*and Join SAA!*



[www.saaseed.org](http://www.saaseed.org)