

US Regulations of Genetically Modified Crops — Regulations of the Federal and State Governments and their New Challenges —

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Summary

The US regulations of genetically modified (GM) crops are very complicated in nature and the understanding of these regulations in details is a challenge for people living outside US. It could constitute another labyrinth which is comparable with the EU regulations of GM crops. In this report, I would like to show the overviews of these complicated regulations related to GM crops in the US mainly employing resources published by the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology. As there are three agencies in charge of the regulations of GM crops, such as USDA, EPA and FDA, I will describe major characteristics of their regulatory frameworks including those aspects such as pre-market authority, post-market authority, and public involvement. I also describe basic features of relationships between federal and state government, since they have turned out to be a hot issue in terms of oversight and monitoring of GM crops nowadays. Based on the interviews to resource persons in the US, recent proposals to update the regulatory systems to incorporate new types of GM crops, such as plant-made pharmaceuticals, are also reviewed in this report.