



Joint press release

Brussels, 22 July 2016

COCERAL, FEDIOL and FEFAC, representing commodity collection and trade¹, oilseed crushing and compound feed manufacturing, acknowledge the formal EU import authorisation for the 3 Genetically Modified Soybeans² which were pending since the beginning of 2016.

COCERAL, FEDIOL and FEFAC reiterate the need for a robust, predictable EU GM import authorisation system providing legal certainty to operators to ensure vital protein supplies to the EU feed and livestock sector.

We regret the absence of any explication for the extended delay of the final decision stage on these pending GM import market authorisations which has created undue uncertainty in export countries and at the level of importers, food and feed business operators.

All market partners rely on a fully functioning EU regulatory framework, to be able to make forward contracts covering the supply of new crop vegetable protein meeting the demand of the EU food, feed and livestock sector which is dependent to 70% on imports of protein-rich raw and feed materials.

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¹ Trade includes collection, storage transport and trading operations.

² Genetically Modified Soybeans MON87705 x MON89788, MON87708 x MON89788 and FG72

COCERAL is the European association of trade in cereals, rice, feedstuffs oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply. It represents the interest of the European collectors, traders, importers, exporters and port silo storekeepers of the above mentioned agricultural products. **COCERAL's** full members are 26 national associations in 18 countries and 1 European association [Unistock]. With about 3500 companies as part of **COCERAL** national members, the sector trades agricultural raw materials destined to the supply of the food and feed chains, as well as for technical and energy uses. **COCERAL** has two associated members in Switzerland and Serbia and one extraordinary member Gafta.

FEDIOL represents the interests of the European vegetable oils and protein meal industry. With over 150 facilities in Europe, the sector provides over 20.000 direct employments. Our members process approximately 56 million tonnes of basic products a year for the food and non-food markets. Oilseed crushing produces vegetable oils and protein meals as co-products. While vegetable oils are used for food and technical uses (pharmaceuticals, paints, detergents, biodiesel, etc.), protein meals are used to meet the increasing global demand for meat and protein.

FEFAC is the European Compound Feed Manufacturers' Federation. **FEFAC** represents 25 national Associations in 24 EU Member States as well as Associations in Switzerland, Turkey, Serbia, Russia and Norway with observer/associate member status, and is the only independent spokesman of the European Compound Feed Industry at the level of the European Institutions. The European compound feed industry employs over 110,000 persons on app. 4,000 production sites often in rural areas, which offer few employment opportunities.