# HELPING INCREASE CROP YIELDS FOR AMERICA'S FARMERS

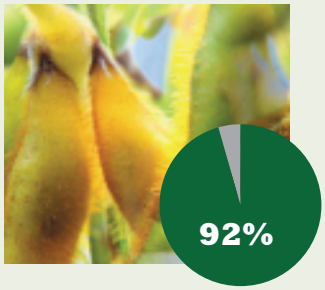
***Crop yields are expected to continue increasing, allowing farmers to produce more corn, soybeans, cotton, and other crops on the same number of acres—without having to cultivate additional land.***

## Did You Know?

Since the introduction of agricultural biotechnology, farmers' crop yields – the amount of grain or fiber produced per acre of land – have increased dramatically in the United States. Crop yields are expected to continue increasing, allowing farmers to produce more corn, soybeans, cotton, and other crops on the same number of acres without having to cultivate additional land.


### CORN

In the United States, **where today 85% of the nation's corn acreage is planted with biotechnology varieties** (USDA ERS, 2009), yields have increased 36% since 1995, the last year before biotech varieties were commercially planted (USDA NASS).




### SOYBEANS

**With about 91% of the U.S. soybean acreage now planted with biotech varieties** (USDA ERS, 2009), soybean yields have increased 12% since 1995 (USDA NASS).


### COTTON

**Eighty-eight percent of U.S. cotton is now enhanced by biotechnology** (USDA ERS, 2009). Since 1995, cotton yields have increased 31% in the thirteen years that biotech cotton has been grown in this country (USDA NASS).

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***These enhanced plants are designed to resist pests, use water more efficiently, control the growth of weeds, and provide other improvements to help farmers around the world.***


CITATIONS:

United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA NASS) http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp

Yield increases were calculated by comparing 1995 yields (the year prior to the introduction of biotech varieties) of each crop with 2008 yields of each crop.

United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service Report, Adoption of Genetically Engineered Crops in the U.S., 2008. http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/BiotechCrops/


ABOUT THE COUNCIL FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

The Council for Biotechnology Information communicates science-based information about the benefits and safety of agricultural biotechnology and its contributions to sustainable agricultural solutions. Agricultural biotechnology enables farmers around the world to use economically and environmentally sustainable agricultural practices. In the United States, agricultural biotechnology is contributing today to sustainability, and it has the potential to make additional contributions in the future, through renewable biofuels to help meet energy needs; drought-tolerant plants to help manage water resources; and improved crop productivity and higher quality crops grown on existing farm land to help feed the United States and the world's growing population.

CBI members are the leading agricultural biotechnology companies.

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