SEED QUARANTINE SERVICES
DEMONSTRATE PHYTOSANITARY COMPLIANCE

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SGS’s state-of-the-art, post-entry seed quarantine facility helps to protect Brazil from pests unintentionally introduced via seed imports – the first private independent quarantine service provider in the country.

Failure to implement effective quarantine can lead to the import of non-native pests and plant diseases that have the potential to damage native seeds, crops and wildlife. Working closely with the Brazilian authorities, SGS’s facility provides independent and accurate phytosanitary analysis of seeds imported by breeding companies.

Seed breeding programmes and the development of new varieties are highly dependent on seed and propagation materials imported from different regions of the world. The challenge for the industry is to ensure that this transit is completed safely, and without introducing destructive pests and diseases. Failure to do so can have devastating natural and commercial consequences.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS

Asian soybean rust, an infection that can decimate yields by more than 80%, was first identified in Japan in 1902. Since then, this fungal pathogen has spread throughout Asia and Africa, and has now been found in Brazil’s main soybean producing regions. More recently, a quarantine pest, the Helicoverpa armigera (the cotton bollworm, corn earworm, or old world bollworm) whose larvae feed on a wide range of plants, causing severe damage to crops, has been found in Brazil. Effective quarantine services could have prevented these incidents.

CONTAINMENT FACILITY

Our new facility is designed to eliminate these risks and equipped with testing facilities to detect, identify, contain and eliminate exotic pests. Designed to contain quarantine pests during the completion of phytosanitary tests for seed consignments, this is a high-level containment facility, where qualified experts runs pest diagnoses in compliance with all Brazilian regulations.

Services include phytosanitary analysis using analytical methods such as:
- Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
- Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
- BIOLOG (analytical method allowing identification of a very wide range and large number of microbial species by phenotypic testing)

PRE-EMPTIVE ANALYSIS

In accordance with Brazilian regulations, before cultivation, all seeds imported for research must be analysed at one of the country’s registered quarantine stations. Our new seed quarantine facility enables confinement of imported seeds, post-entry, to prevent the escape of pests. It is designed to eliminate any risk associated with and to detect, identify, contain and eliminate exotic pests such as:
- Insects and nematodes
- Fungus
- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Weeds
- Phytoplasmas

PHYTOSANITARY SECURITY

Testing, analysis and certification services are designed to enable clients to demonstrate compliance with Brazil’s phytosanitary regulation, and ensure phytosanitary security, as seeds, plants and other propagation materials are transported around the world by the agriculture industry. With more than 100 years experience in the industry, SGS is ideally placed to support the industry in its aims, while also achieving the fastest turnaround times, the highest quality and accurate results.

SGS IN BRAZIL

SGS is the leading field contract research company in Brazil, with a large network of field stations providing the best geographical coverage on main commercial crops. Prior to commercialisation, new agrochemicals, seed varieties and fertilizers must be tested in supervised field trials. We offer a range of services including:
- Field trials (GM crops, efficacy studies, residue studies, fertiliser trials, etc)
- GLP Studies/GLP Audits
- Environmental monitoring of transgenic crops
- Insect rearing for experimental purposes
- Biological laboratory
- Nematode analysis laboratory
- Integrated Pest Management Consultancy

Contact

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