

Genomic breeding strategies to cultivate high-yield Soybean varieties for global farmers

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Texas Crop Science (TCS), a developer of cutting-edge and sustainable crop yield traits, and GDM, a leading company in plant genetics with U.S. headquarters in Champaign, Illinois, has entered a strategic collaboration to develop higher-yielding soybean varieties for global farmers.

By incorporating TCS high-yielding technology into GDM's world-leading soybean genetics using gene-editing and advanced plant breeding techniques, the collaboration aims to develop new soybean varieties that deliver higher yield under a wide range of growing conditions, varying from ideal to stress-impacted. Soybeans are one of the main sources of plant protein for both human and animal nutrition. In addition to the ongoing need for higher yields, soybean growers also face increasing challenges associated with the impacts of climate change.

Forty percent of worldwide soybean production is made using GDM genetics, stemming from innovative technologies that combine data science, biotechnology, and agricultural management for the continual genetic improvement of soybean crops.

High-yielding technology from TCS has been under development for more than a decade and proven to increase soybean yields by up to 34 percent through more than 70 intensive field trials carried out over seven years and nine growing seasons at locations in North and South America.

Simon Hiebert, CEO of TCS said "The novel yield trait technology and plant genetic innovation can create a stream of soybean products that will benefit farmers with increased and climate-stable yields, while also benefitting consumers through increased global food security and reduced environmental impact".