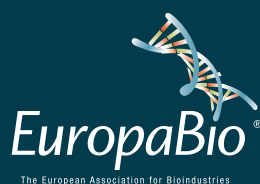


PRICING INNOVATION OUT OF THE EU

COUNTING THE COSTS OF GMO AUTHORISATIONS



Each year, around **18 million farmers around the world plant genetically modified (GM) crops for higher yields, improved crop quality and the ability to use fewer inputs**. Although the vast majority of EU farmers are not allowed to grow GM crops, the EU is one of the biggest importers of agricultural commodities derived from GMOs. In fact, the GM soya beans which are imported into the EU each year weigh as much as the entire EU population!

Before coming onto the market, **all GM crops go through a rigorous and costly safety assessment**. In the EU, this assessment is carried out by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).



EU GMO AUTHORISATION COSTS AND TIMELINES ARE PROHIBITIVE

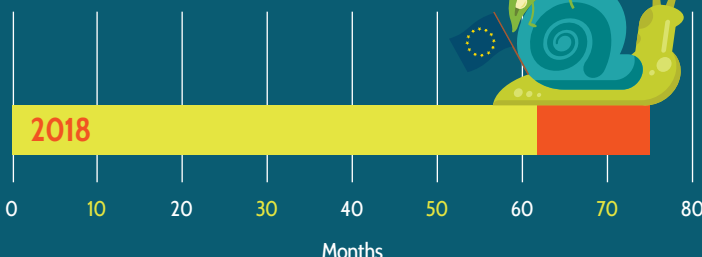
AN EU IMPORT AUTHORISATION FOR GM CROPS CURRENTLY:

Costs an estimated **€11 - €16.7 million¹**

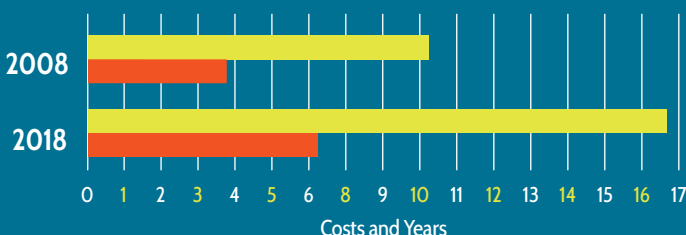
And takes over **6 years** to be completed on average!

... And this is just for import. The system for authorisations to cultivate in the EU is not functioning at all.

■ EU risk assessment
■ EU risk management



COSTS AND WAITING TIME HAVE INCREASED FOR OVER A DECADE



COMPARED TO 10 YEARS AGO, THAT'S:

- Almost **two thirds** more **expensive**
- Almost **two thirds** more **time consuming**

■ Costs in million €
■ Timespan in years



REGULATORY BURDEN HAS BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION...

COMPARED TO OTHER REGULATED PRODUCTS THAT'S:

- More than **7 times as long** as an EU authorisation for human medicines
- **Much more expensive and lengthy** than EU authorisations for other food related products



AND COMES AT A COST

IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT...

- **EU farmers lack fair access to GM crops**
- **Only 1 EU authorisation** currently exists for cultivating a single GM crop, and this authorisation dates back to 1998
- Other authorisation files for cultivation have been **lingering in the system for 15 years** and longer despite multiple confirmations of product safety
- **Innovators have withdrawn most cultivation applications from the system**, and are now focusing their product development pipelines on other parts of the world

THE MATHS JUST DOESN'T ADD UP!

If Europe wants to promote innovation that can save money and fuel, and improve the overall sustainability of agriculture, then it is time for EFSA to manage the safety assessment as efficiently as other agencies do, and give farmers improved and timely access to GM crops.



¹ This is an industry estimate based on a 2008 report issued by the Dutch government advisory body on GMOs: <https://bit.ly/2GuOh38> (accessed 19-12-18).