



BIO Applauds White House Support for Agricultural Biotechnology

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WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 16, 2014) – As a follow-up to the March 25th dedication of the Norman E. Borlaug statue in the U.S. Capitol's National Statuary Hall, President Obama praised the work of the Nobel Prize winner and voiced support for the promises of agricultural biotechnology.

In a [letter](#) to Julie Borlaug about her grandfather, Obama said, "I share his belief that investment in enhanced biotechnology is an essential component of the solution to some of our planet's most pressing agricultural problems."

Jim Greenwood, President and CEO of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), issued the following statement in response:

"On behalf of BIO and its members, we applaud President Obama and join him in his admiration for Dr. Borlaug and the technological advances pioneered by Dr. Borlaug as part of the Green Revolution.

"As we confront the challenge of feeding 9 billion people by 2050, we need to follow Dr. Borlaug's vision for using technology in agriculture. Under President Obama's leadership, the United States can help the world embrace science and innovation as tools of progress.

"With improved seed technology that can withstand drought, disease and pests, today's growers can produce more with less using farming practices that protect our environment and precious natural resources.

"Dr. Borlaug proved that we can help alleviate hunger, raise farmers' incomes, improve health and nutrition, expand opportunities and strengthen regional economies. This mission is a vital part of our nation's roadmap for future agricultural development."

About BIO

BIO is the world's largest trade association representing biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States and in more than 30 other nations. BIO members are involved in the research and development of innovative healthcare, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology products. BIO also produces the [BIO International Convention](#), the world's largest gathering of the biotechnology industry, along with industry-leading investor and partnering meetings held around the world. [BIOtechNOW](#) is BIO's blog chronicling "innovations transforming our world" and the BIO Newsletter is the organization's bi-weekly email newsletter. [Subscribe to the BIO Newsletter](#).