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APHIS Invites Public Comment on Petition to Deregulate Corn Variety Developed Using Genetic Engineering

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Washington, D.C., March 5, 2026—The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) invites the public to comment on a petition from Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. (Pioneer) to deregulate DP51291 corn, a variety developed using genetic engineering for insect-resistance and glufosinate-ammonium tolerance.

APHIS previously deregulated these traits in another Pioneer corn variety, referred to as DP23211 corn.

After reviewing Pioneer's request, APHIS prepared a preliminary plant pest risk similarity assessment (PPRSA) and found that DP51291 corn is no more likely to pose a plant pest risk than the previously deregulated DP23211 corn.

The request to extend deregulation, APHIS' preliminary decision and PPRSA will be available for public review and comment for 30 days beginning March 6, 2026. Members of the public can submit comments through April 6, 2026, by going to www.regulations.gov and entering "APHIS-2025-0411" into the Search field.

APHIS will carefully review all feedback received during the comment period. If APHIS does not receive any new scientific information, the Agency will announce its final decision extending deregulation to DP51291 corn on the APHIS website.