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GROWER ORGANIZATIONS

U.S. Grains Council

20 F Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20001 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 789-0789 Fax: (202) 898-0522 Email: grains@grains.org Website: www.grains.org

The USGC is a private, non-profit organization with the goal of developing and expanding export markets for U.S. produced feed grains and their co-products through an international network of offices. All of these offices can assist importers with the search for a U.S. supplier.

The Council was founded in 1960 to develop and promote exports of U.S. feed grains and their co-products. It is one of the few organizations whose membership is truly representative of both producers and agribusiness interests. They have successfully coordinated and unified the efforts of both groups into a policy promoting the global expansion for the utilization of feed grains and their co-products. This manual is part of that effort.

The Council can be called on by any importer or potential importer for assistance in either developing the technology to process feed grains for industrial uses or in providing information on those products themselves. The Council will direct inquiries to one of their many internal experts on trade and utilization or to one of the 100-plus firms and organizations comprising its membership. The Council also maintains offices in 10 different countries plus consultants in many more to help importers with their feed grains needs.

USGC membership is comprised of over 140 organizations, including state checkoff boards, agribusinesses, and producer groups, who together form a unique partnership with the goal of building global markets for U.S. grains. Many of these members can be supplier of grain and can assist you in procurement and purchasing. For more information about USGC members, and contact details, see the membership directory at:

https://grains.org/membership/member-directory/#member area of business=95

National Corn Growers Association

 St. Louis Office

 632 Cepi Drive

 Chesterfield, MO 63005 U.S.A.

 Phone:
 (636) 733-9004

 Fax:
 (636) 733-9005

Washington D.C. Office 20 F Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20001 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 628-7001 Fax: (202) 628-1933

Email: <u>corninfo@ncga.com</u> Website: <u>www.ncga.com</u>

Founded in 1957, the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) has nearly 29,000 corn producer members in 47 states. The Association's mission is to enhance corn profitability and utilization while improving the quality of life in a changing world. Among the Association's many programs to further this mission is a strong commitment to developing new markets for corn.

In this role, the NCGA has funded many innovative research projects probing the technological frontier for new industrial feed grains uses. They have, for instance, helped focus the search for new products on ethanol and biodegradable plastics. They continue supporting efforts to make these processes more efficient and competitive with petroleum feedstock and are promoting the development of starch-based substitutes for road salt and window washer fluid.

The Association has a unique network of relationships focusing on the development of new industrial uses, as well as a number of experienced professionals working on their market potential. These professionals can direct inquiries to researchers supported by or familiar with the Association efforts in this area. They can also help direct importers with specific inquiries to refiners or manufacturers in the United States who might hold patents that could be licensed for overseas use by an interested importer.

National Grain Sorghum Producers

4201 N. Interstate 27 Lubbock, TX 79403 U.S.A. Phone: (806) 749-3478 Fax: (806) 749-9002 Email: <u>info@sorghumgrowers.com</u> Website: <u>www.sorghumgrowers.com</u>

This Association represents sorghum grain producers across the United States. They promote alternative uses for sorghum, which include limited use as a feedstock for ethanol production. They do significant work on production efficiencies, including testing on feed efficiencies related to the presence or absence of tannin.

The Association is a resource for potential importers who wish to use grain sorghum as an industrial feedstock and for help in inquiries dealing with the production of ethanol from sorghum.

National Barley Growers Association

600 Pennsylvania Ave. SE Washington, D.C. 20003 USA Phone: (202) 548-0734 Fax: (202) 969-7036 Website: www.national-barley.com

The National Barley Growers Association (NBGA) is a national barley advocacy organization. NBGA has been actively working to promote U.S. sourced barley since 1989.

This Association represents barley grain producers across the United States. They promote alternative uses for barley and do significant work on production efficiencies.

The Association is a resource for potential importers who wish to use grain barley as an industrial feedstock.

TRADE ORGANIZATIONS

Corn Refiners Association, Inc.

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20006 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 331-1634 Fax: (202) 331-2054 Website: www.corn.org

The Corn Refiners Association (CRA) is the national trade association representing a full 100% of the corn refining industry of the United States.

CRA and its predecessors have served this important segment of American agribusiness since 1913. Corn refiners manufacture sweeteners, starch, advanced bioproducts, corn oil, and feed products from corn components such as starch, oil, protein, and fiber.

Based in Washington, D.C., CRA is the proactive, nimble, highly effective, member-driven trade association representing corn wet millers. It advocates for science-based public policy and economically-sound decisions at the state, federal, and global levels.

CRA approaches every new challenge with its members and their customers in mind, working to foster technological innovation, expand commercial opportunities, advance free trade, build the bioeconomy, and feed a hungry world.

The CRA is unabashed in its support of innovative feed grains utilization, particularly corn. It is the principal source of information on new products from wet milling feedstock and their current use by different industries.

Importers needing statistical information on the U.S. corn wet milling industry should think of the CRA as their first resource. The CRA can also help direct specific inquiries to their refiner members.

Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Associations Ltd (FOSFA)

4 – 6 Throgmorton Avenue London EC2N 2DL Phone: +44 207 374 2346 Fax: +44 207 374 8574 Email: <u>contact@fosfa.org</u> Website: www.fosfa.org/

The Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Associations Ltd (FOSFA) is a professional international contract issuing and arbitral body concerned exclusively with the world trade in oilseeds, oils and fats with 1,180 members in 87 countries. These members include producers and processors, shippers and dealers, traders, brokers and agents, superintendents, analysts, shipowners, ship brokers, tank storage companies, arbitrators, consultants, lawyers, insurers and others, providing services to traders. For further details about membership, click here.

FOSFA has an extensive range of standard forms of contracts covering goods shipped either CIF, C&F or FOB, for soybeans, sunflowerseeds, rapeseed, and others, vegetable and marine oils and fats, refined oils and fats, from all origins worldwide, for different methods of transportation and different terms of trade. Internationally, 85% of the global trade in oils and fats is traded under FOSFA contracts. For details of the Federation's contracts, click here.

The Federation's contracts incorporate a dispute procedure involving arbitration by experienced individuals from within the trade.

Grain and Feed Trade Association

9 Lincoln's Inn Fields London, WC2A 3BP Phone: +44 20 7814 9666 Fax: +44 20 7814 8383 Email: post@gafta.com Website: www.gafta.com

The Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA) is an international, London headquartered trade association consisting of traders, brokers, superintendents, analysts, fumigators, arbitrators and other professionals in the international grain trade.

GAFTA is headquartered in Holborn, London and currently operates four more offices in Beijing, Geneva, Kyiv and Singapore.

GAFTA can trace its origins back to 1878, when the London Corn Trade Association (LCTA) was established by members of the corn trade to protect their interests. The LCTA sought to achieve this through the adoption of standard forms of contract, drawn up by the association, with any disputes arising out of these contracts being settled by arbitration rather than legislation. Disputes were referred to London and conducted under English Law.

In 1906, a group of traders broke away from the LCTA and formed a new more specialised association, the London Cattle Food Trade Association (LCFTA), for those trading in vegetable proteins used as animal feeding stuffs. In 1965, the LCFTA dropped 'London' from its title, reflecting growing internationalisation. In 1969, merger talks commenced between the LCTA and CFTA. The outcome of these talks was the formation of a new joint association, the Grain and Feed Trade Association in 1971.

National Futures Association NFA Offices Chicago 300 S. Riverside Plaza, #1800 Chicago, IL 60606-6615 Phone: 800-621-3570 Phone: 312-781-1300

New York One New York Pla

Fax:

One New York Plaza, #4300 New York, NY 10004 Phone: 212-608-8660 Fax: 212-964-3913 Website: <u>www.nfa.futures.org</u>

312-781-1467

The National Futures Association (NFA), founded in 1982, is the self-regulatory organization for the U.S. derivatives industry, including on-exchange traded futures, retail off-exchange foreign currency and OTC derivatives. NFA is headquartered in Chicago and maintains an office in New York City.

National Grain and Feed Association

1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 260 Arlington, VA 22202 USA Phone: 202-892-0873 Fax: Email: Website: https://imis.ngfa.org/

The National Grain and Feed Association, founded in 1896, is a broadbased, non-profit trade association that represents and provides services for grain, feed and related commercial businesses. Its activities focus on enhancing the growth and economic performance of U.S. agriculture.

The National Grain and Feed Association, founded in 1896, is a broadbased, non-profit trade association that represents and provides services for grain, feed and related commercial businesses. Its activities focus on enhancing the growth and economic performance of U.S. agriculture.

Affiliated with the NGFA are approximately 30 state and regional associations, whose members include more than 10,000 grain and feed companies nationwide.

North American Export Grain Association

1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 260 Arlington, VA 22202 USA Phone: 202-682-4030 Fax: 202-682-4033 Email: info@naega.org Website: www.naega.org/

The North American Export Grain Association is a not-for-profit industry trade association promoting policies, rules and commercial practices that support efficient international trade in grains, oilseeds and their derived products.

NAEGA members are exporters of and serve the vast majority of all U.S. grain and oilseeds in international markets.

Established in 1912, NAEGA's members include private and publicly owned companies and farmer-owned cooperatives who export agricultural production to customers around the world. Our work benefits consumers, farmers and people working the trade. NAEGA's mission is to promote and sustain the development of commercial export. Through a reliance on member action and support, NAEGA acts throughout the world to promote policies, rules and commercial practices that support international trade in grains, oilseeds, and their derived products. Providing for competitive, informed, robust, responsive, responsible, reliable, resilient, safe, and secure supply chains for agricultural commodities and food products is the core value of NAEGA.

North American Millers Association

1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 650 Arlington VA 22202 USA Phone: (202) 484-2200 Fax: (202) 488-7416 Email: generalinfo@namamillers.org Website: www.namamillers.org

The North American Millers' Association represents millers of wheat, corn, oats, and rye in the U.S. and Canada. Our members take raw grain and transform it into flour and other products that are used to make such favorite foods as bread, cereals, pasta, cookies, cakes, and snack foods. We're proud to be the indispensable link between raw grain and healthy and delicious products that have sustained and enriched people's lives for centuries.

NAMA's 37 members have 149 locations across 31 states. Utilizing the technical expertise of our members and staff, we represent the milling industry before the White House, federal agencies, and Congress.

Renewable Fuels Association

RFA Headquarters 16024 Manchester Road, Suite 101 Ellisville, MO 63011 USA Phone: (636) 594-2284 Fax: (202) 289-7519

Washington D.C. 425 3rd St SW. Suite 1150 Washington, DC 20001 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 289-3835 Fax: (202) 289-7519

Email: <u>info@ethanolrfa.org</u> Website: <u>www.ethanolrfa.org</u>

RFA are the leading trade association for America's ethanol industry, working to drive expanded demand for American-made renewable fuels and bio-products worldwide.

As the authoritative voice of the U.S. ethanol industry, RFA helps America become cleaner, safer, and more energy independent. Since 1981, the RFA has been helping Americans have more affordable, efficient, and environmentally friendly fuel for their cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles and engines of all kinds.

The RFA represents the ethanol industry promoting policies, regulations, and research and development initiatives that will lead to the increased production and use of ethanol fuel.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

International Grains Program (IGP) – Kansas State University 1980 Kimball Avenue Manhattan, KS 66502 USA Phone: (785) 532-4070 Email: <u>igp@k-state.edu</u> Website: <u>www.grains.k-state.edu/igp/</u>

The IGP Institute at Kansas State University has established a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for international programs related to flour milling and grain processing, feed manufacturing and grain management, grain marketing and risk management focused on corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and wheat.

The mission of the IGP Institute is to provide technical, research-based training benefiting industry professionals globally and enhancing the market preference for U.S. grains and oilseeds. To meet this mission, course offerings are led by KSU faculty and industry professionals in the areas of flour milling and grain processing, grain marketing and risk management, and feed manufacturing and grain management. Along with on-campus trainings, our faculty lead customized on-location workshops as well as distance education courses.

For more than 45 years, the IGP Institute has served Kansas and U.S. commodity organizations through its global education center housed in the Grain Science Complex on the campus of Kansas State University. This complex is home to the International Grains Program Conference Center, Hal Ross Flour Mill, O.H. Kruse Feed Technology Innovation Center and the Bio-processing and Industrial Value Added Program.

U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)

1155 21st Street, NW Washington, DC 20250 U.S.A. Phone: (866) 366 2382 Website: www.cftc.gov

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is an independent agency of the US government created in 1974, that regulates the U.S. derivatives markets, which includes futures, swaps, and certain kinds of options.

The CFTC oversees the derivatives markets by encouraging their competitiveness and efficiency, ensuring their integrity, protecting market participants against manipulation, abusive trading practices, fraud, and ensuring the financial integrity of the clearing process.

The CFTC generally does not directly regulate the safety and soundness of individual firms, with the exception of newly regulated swap dealers and major swap participants, for whom it sets capital standards pursuant to Dodd-Frank. Through oversight, the CFTC enables the derivatives markets to serve the function of price discovery and offsetting price risk.

The CFTC's mandate was renewed and expanded in December 2000 when Congress passed the Commodity Futures Modernization Act of 2000, which instructed the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the CFTC to develop a joint regulatory regime for single-stock futures, the products of which began trading in November 2002.

In 2010, the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act expanded the CFTC's regulatory authority into the swaps markets. The swaps markets currently have a notional value of more than \$400 trillion. As of 2014 the CFTC oversees 'designated contract markets' (DCMs) or exchanges, swap execution facilities (SEFs), derivatives clearing organizations, swap data repositories (SDRs), swap dealers, futures commission merchants, commodity pool operators and other intermediaries. The CFTC coordinates its work with foreign regulators, such as its UK counterpart, the Financial Conduct Authority, which supervises the London Metal Exchange.

U.S. Federal Trade Commission

Headquarters 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580 USA Telephone: (202) 326-2222

Constitution Center Federal Trade Commission 400 7th St., SW Washington, DC 20024 USA Telephone: (202) 326-2222 Website: <u>https://www.ftc.gov/about-ftc</u>

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is an independent agency of the United States government, created in 1914, whose principal mission is the enforcement of civil U.S. antitrust law and the promotion of consumer protection. The FTC shares jurisdiction over federal civil antitrust enforcement with the Department of Justice Antitrust Division.

The Federal Trade Commission works to promote competition, and protect and educate consumers.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1301 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 720-2791 Email: <u>askusda@usda.gov</u> Website: <u>www.usda.gov</u>

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), also known as the Agriculture Department, is the federal executive department responsible for developing and executing federal laws related to farming, forestry, rural economic development, and food. It aims to meet the needs of commercial farming and livestock food production, promotes agricultural trade and production, works to assure food safety, protects natural resources, fosters rural communities and works to end hunger in the United States and internationally.

Within this agency, the three main offices to contact for further information.

- USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (USDA AMS)
- USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS)
- National Center of Agricultural Utilization Research, ARS

U.S. Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Marketing Service

1301 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 720-8998 Email: <u>pa@usda.gov</u> Website: www.ams.usda.gov

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (USDA AMS) The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers programs that create domestic and international marketing opportunities for U.S. producers of food, fiber, and specialty crops. AMS also provides the agriculture industry with valuable services to ensure the quality and availability of wholesome food for consumers across the country.

The AMS was established in 1939 when Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace consolidated a number of bureaus and programs to create a single agency to carry out a sweeping mission. The new Agricultural Marketing Service was charged with facilitating the efficient, fair marketing of U.S. agricultural products, including food, fiber, and specialty crops.

In 2017, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the realignment of a number of offices within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) and several program areas from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) joined the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to help us better meet the needs of farmers, ranchers, and producers, while providing improved customer service and maximize efficiency.

Among other things, these programs provide testing, standardization, grading and market news services for those commodities, and oversee marketing agreements and orders, administer research and promotion programs, and purchase commodities for federal food programs.

U.S. Department of Agriculture – Foreign Agricultural Service 1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 720-2791 Email: <u>askusda@usda.gov</u> Website: <u>www.fas.usda.gov/contact/key-contactsusda.gov</u>

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) links U.S. agriculture to the world to enhance export opportunities and global food security.

FAS is the foreign affairs agency with primary responsibility for the USDA overseas programs, market development, international trade agreements and negotiations, and the collection of statistics and market information. It also administers the USDA's export credit guarantee and food aid programs and helps increase income and food availability in developing nations by mobilizing expertise for agriculturally led economic growth.

FAS expands and maintains access to foreign markets for U.S. agricultural products by removing trade barriers and enforcing U.S. rights under existing trade agreements. FAS works with foreign governments, international organizations, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to establish international standards and rules to improve accountability and predictability for agricultural trade.

FAS partners with more than 70 cooperator groups representing a cross-section of the U.S. food and agricultural industry and manages a toolkit of trade promotion programs to help U.S. exporters develop and maintain markets for hundreds of products. FAS also supports U.S. agricultural exporters through export credit guarantee programs and other types of assistance.

FAS's network of global contacts and long-standing relationships with international groups contribute to the agency's unique market intelligence capacity. FAS analysts provide objective intelligence on foreign market conditions, prepare production forecasts, assess export opportunities, and track changes in policies affecting U.S. agricul-tural exports and imports.

FAS has a global network of nearly 100 offices covering approximately 180 countries. These offices are staffed by agricultural attachés and locally hired agricultural experts who are the eyes, ears, and voice for U.S. agriculture around the world. FAS staff identify problems, provide practical solutions, and work to advance opportunities for U.S. agriculture and support U.S. foreign policy around the globe.

U.S. Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) 100 F St., NE Washington, DC 20250 U.S.A. Phone: (202) 551-6551 Website: <u>www.sec.gov</u>

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is an independent agency of the United States federal government, created in the aftermath of the Wall Street Crash of 1929.

The primary purpose of the SEC is to enforce the law against market manipulation. The SEC has a three-part mission: to protect investors; maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets; and facilitate capital formation.

In addition to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which created it, the SEC enforces the Securities Act of 1933, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Sarbanes–Oxley Act of 2002, and other statutes. The SEC was created by Section 4 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (now codified as 15 U.S.C. § 78d and commonly referred to as the Exchange Act or the 1934 Act).

National Center of Agricultural Utilization Research, ARS 1815 North University Street Peoria, IL 61604 U.S.A. Phone: (309) 685-4011 Fax: (309) 681-6686 Email: <u>askusda@usda.gov</u> Website: <u>www.ars.usda.gov/midwest-area/peoria-il/national-center-for-agricultural-utilization-research/</u>

The National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (NCAUR) (sometimes still called the Northern Lab; known locally as the Ag Lab) is a United States Department of Agriculture laboratory center in Peoria, Illinois. The Center researches new industrial and food uses for agricultural commodities, develops new technology to improve environmental quality, and provides technical support to federal regulatory and action agencies.

The ARS is responsible for agricultural research. The ARS operates numerous laboratories across the country. They are deeply involved in research on a broad spectrum of agricultural questions, including all those raised in the debate over new industrial uses for feed grains.

For example, this is the government service responsible for most of the latest developments into starch research. They have made exciting strides in areas of biopolymers and encapsulation. The "super absorbents" that have had such commercial success are a product of these government laboratories.

They are an excellent source for new product avenues, quick and eager to share their ideas. Importers interested in exploring industrial feed grains use should include the ARS on their fact-finding tour.

National Institute of Health - Office of Technology Transfer 9000 Rockville Pike Bethesda, MD 20892 USA Phone: (301) 496-7057 Fax: (301) 402-0220 Email: <u>nihott@od.nih.gov</u> Website: <u>http://ott.od.nih.gov/</u>

The NIH Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) plays a strategic role by supporting the patenting and licensing efforts of our NIH ICs. OTT protects, monitors, markets and manages the wide range of NIH discoveries, inventions, and other intellectual property as mandated by the Federal Technology Transfer Act and related legislation.

One method the U.S. government uses to share the fruits of its research labors is through the Office of Technology Transfer (OTT). Part of the National Patent Program, and a Division of the ARS of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, this office speeds products or processes developed by government scientists into commercial application.

A unique blend of taxpayer-funded support and entrepreneurial incentives, the program rewards individual scientists who work on government projects a share in any patents and licensing revenue that results from commercial application.

It was this office that licensed the super absorbent biopolymers that rank as one of the great successes of feed grains over the competitive petroleum feedstock. The U.S. government holds hundreds of other patents, many of them related to starch research from the National Center of Agricultural Utilization Research in Peoria, Ill.

These patents include new approaches to absorbents, many different encapsulation biopolymers, a variety of films (for example, shrinkwrap biodegradable mulch) and new processes to ferment ethanol from cornstarch.

The Federal Technology Act of 1986 empowered the government, in this case, ARS, to enter into contracts and agreements with both the ARS and individual scientists called Cooperative Research and Development Agreements, or CRADA's.

CRADA's give the cooperator who has entered into an agreement with ARS the right of first refusal to any commercial license opportunities that might arise from the agreed-to project. Under CRADA's, the cooperator may or may not provide funds depending upon the relevance of the proposal to the agency's mission. Information on CRADA's and how they function can be obtained through the Office of Technology Transfer, or OTT.

For help in identifying an opportunity to work with the ARS in CRADA's, inquiries should be directed to ARS Utilization in Peoria, Ill., or their Washington headquarters.

OTT also offers a number of services designed to showcase the government's inventory of agricultural patents. These include:

- TEKTRAN an electronic system that gives the subscriber direct access to information on new research results and inventions that are available for commercial licensing.
- Agricultural Inventions Catalog a comprehensive list of the patents held by government jointly with ARS research scientists. The catalog is updated periodically and can be obtained through the OTT.

In addition, detailed help in obtaining licenses for U.S. governmentheld patents is available through the OTT. They have published several how-to aids that walk the potential licensee through the steps needed to bring the product or process patented to the marketplace.

Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE)

1000 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20585 U.S.A. Phone: (877) 337-3463 Website: <u>https://www.energy.gov/eere/about-office-energy-efficiency-</u> and-renewable-energy

As part of its work to support energy efficiency and renewable energy research, the EERE collaborates with private organizations, researchers, and other nations. Most of EERE's new investments directly support deployments or demonstrations of technologies that show viable pathways for achieving EERE's five programmatic priorities:

- Decarbonizing the electricity sector.
- Decarbonizing transportation across all modes: air, sea, rail, and road.
- Decarbonizing the industrial sector.
- Reducing the carbon footprint of buildings.
- Decarbonizing the agriculture sector, specifically focused on the nexus between energy and water.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) -General Information Services Division

Crystal Plaza 3, Room 2CO2 Washington, DC 20231 U.S.A. Phone: (800) 786-9199 Fax: (703) 305-7786 Email: <u>usptoinfo@uspto.gov</u> Website: <u>www.uspto.gov</u>

USPTO Patent Depository Library

Phone: (703) 308-3924

The United States Patent and Trademark Office is an agency in the U.S. Department of Commerce that issues patents to inventors and businesses for their inventions, and trademark registration for product and intellectual property identification.

Both of these agencies can be used as resources to research the patent history of agriculture inventions in the United States. They can provide detailed descriptions of the products and processes protected by U.S. and international patent law and identify the patent holder if an importer is interested in licensing that technology.