



FACT SHEET

December 11, 2007

U.S.-CHINA AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROTOCOL

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) renewed a 2002 protocol that supports the United States policy to establish and expand science and technology exchanges with China to improve market access for agricultural products. Specific areas of cooperation include agricultural biotechnology, natural resource management, dairy production and processing, food safety, agricultural product processing, biofuels research and development, and water-saving agricultural technology. Collaborative research takes place at five virtual laboratories (U.S. and Chinese laboratories performing complementary work on topics of mutual interest) and covers issues related to grazing land ecosystems management, soil and water conservation, wheat quality and pathology, plant genetic resources exchanges, agricultural product processing, and bioenergy.