

USSEC GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

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Work Continues To Lift Turkish Biotech Regulations

Turkey issued new regulations on Oct. 26 placing additional requirements on all imported food and feed products containing genetically modified components. The ban would cover everything from a bag of potato chips to grains. Meanwhile, millions of bushels of soybeans scheduled to reach Turkey in coming weeks will not be able to be imported under this impromptu ruling. Regional Director Tim Burleigh and Sinan Goker worked with Turkish business leaders to help lift the ban, with poultry producers, food producers and feed manufacturers pleading their cases to the Minister. The groups are warning that all food-related sectors will cease production if the regulation is put into effect. In addition to work in Turkey, Kim Nill provided documents detailing the health and environmental benefits of biotech crops to several dozen officials of USDA, U.S. State Department, and the office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), each who are working to try to get the government of Turkey to rescind its recently issued restrictions on import of biotechnology-derived ag commodities.



The activities of the U.S. Soybean Export Council to expand international markets for U.S. soybeans and soy products are made possible by producer checkoff dollars invested by the United Soybean Board and various State Soybean Councils, support from cooperating industry, and through the American Soybean Association's investment of cost-share funding provided by USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service.