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MEMORANDUM

To: Greg Bohach, Director of Experimental Stations and
Associate Dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

From: Eva Top, Chair UI Biohazards Committee 
John K. McIver, Vice President for Research

Date: June 24, 2009

CC: Lorraine A. McConnell, Chief Research Compliance Officer

Subject: Genetically Modified (GM) plant; field planting/trial activities that require UI Biohazard
Committee oversight.

Thank you for requesting clarification as to when GM field planting activities require review and approval by the UI Biohazards Committee. Outlined below are the guidelines as approved by the UI Biohazards Committee and Vice President for Research. Please feel free to distribute this memo to all appropriate parties.

Deregulated GM crops have been assessed by USDA to present insignificant risk to the environment, other plants, animals and humans. Therefore, there is no requirement for additional oversight by the UI Biohazards Committee.

Field activities involving GM plants or other GM organisms in conjunction with plants (transgenic organisms created through recombinant DNA technologies [does not include standard breeding]) fall under the purview of the NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines and necessitate submittal of an MUA to the Biohazards Committee. Please allow a minimum of 6 weeks between submittal of the MUA and required approval from the Biohazards Committee (projected planting date). Whether you or others, e.g., Simplot or Monsanto, etc. have created these organisms an MUA is required. Approval must be obtained before planting activities are initiated.

The MUA form can be downloaded from the following website:
<http://www.uro.uidaho.edu/default.aspx?pid=32023>.