

Challenges and opportunities for industrial biotechnology

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Abstract

In the last 25 years biotechnology has had a positive impact in Brazil and the use of GMOs has allowed the development of new and more sustainable products. Cultivated plants, farm animals and microorganisms that produce enzymes and insulin are a few examples of organisms that have been subject to genetic engineering. The publication of the biosecurity law (Law 11.105/2005) brought additional clarity and security for companies working with GMOs in the country. From this regulatory framework and the subsequent complementary legislations, the regulatory path of biosafety has been used to unleash the development of biotechnology in Brazil. All of this resulted in a simplified and faster regulatory framework. This included more autonomy to the Internal Biosafety Committee, resulted in faster approvals, which allowed to produce yeast, for example, which increase bioethanol production capacity by 5% without requiring additional investment.

Key words: biotechnology, biosafety, regulatory framework, Brazil, GMO