



REALISING POTENTIAL

May 2017

## GMO and the use of Glyphosate

Pioneer is one of South Africa's leading food and beverage producers, and as such our primary objective is to offer all of our consumers competitively priced products of the highest quality and safety.

We understand that there are concerns pertaining to the safe use of GMOs and glyphosate, and we believe this matter will remain a contested and controversial subject in the media and public discourse for the foreseeable future.

At Pioneer we hold the policy that while the safety of glyphosate remains contested, we will follow the stipulated regulations provided by the South African government and we will continue to refer to international best practice for guidance.

We believe we have a responsibility to our shareholders, clients and our consumers to be governed by legislation and empirical scientific evidence. Pioneer diligently subscribes to South African law which regulates the use and MRLs of glyphosate, while remaining alert to any international developments and new regulations pertaining to the use of GMO and glyphosate.

We will continue to monitor all contradictory scientific evidence in this area to stay informed of the latest and most accurate information. We acknowledge the findings presented by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in 2015 which classifies glyphosate as a possible or probable human carcinogen, while, the majority of scientific evidence presently available shows that glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic risk into humans.

Food safety is Pioneer's top priority and we carefully analyse the contents of all our products. We have voluntarily undertaken to start screening for Glyphosate residual levels in all relevant products in response to consumer concerns in this regard. We acknowledge that our role is to monitor the most up to date studies, and it is our responsibility to provide consumers with accurate facts that they can trust, empowering them to make their own informed decisions for a healthy lifestyle. The comprehensive labelling on all our packaging is clear, accurate, and allows our consumers to easily determine the GMO status of any of our products.

Furthermore, to assist with addressing the ongoing shortage of non GMO crops and subsequently build and boost local supply and availability, we are committed to partnering with enterprise development initiatives focused on innovative non GMO farming methods. With a long term view in mind, investing in these initiatives will help contribute the sustainability of GMO free crops in South Africa.