American Society of Plant Biologists

*Cultivating a better future through plant biology research.*

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*CONTACT: Tyrone C. Spady, Ph.D., Director of Legislative and Public Affairs*
*tspady@aspb.org, (301) 296-0934 (office)*

**White House Announces Proposed Update to the Regulatory System for Biotechnology Products**

ROCKVILLE, MD — Periodic review of the regulatory regime governing the use of biotechnology products is an important aspect of maintaining public safety and ensuring consumer confidence. The American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB) appreciates the efforts of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for initiating this process and providing the community with several opportunities for constructive engagement. ASPB also appreciates the significant steps the Obama administration has taken to clarify the roles and responsibilities of relevant federal regulatory agencies. As this process continues forward, ASPB will continue to promote the importance of relying on the best available scientific information for the development of policies related to the regulation of biotechnology products and to advocate for product-based regulation of all biotechnology and conventional agricultural crops.

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*ASPB is a professional scientific society, headquartered in Rockville, Maryland, devoted to the advancement of the plant sciences worldwide. With a membership of some 4500 plant scientists from throughout the United States and more than 50 other nations, the Society publishes two of the most widely cited plant science journals:* The Plant Cell *and* Plant Physiology. *For more information about ASPB, please visit http://www.aspb.org/. Also follow ASPB on Facebook at facebook.com/myASPB and on Twitter @ASPB.*