

Hirata Corporation
Research and Development Headquarters

December 25, 2019

Announcement about the agreement for the research and use of plant genetic resources

1. Agreement overview

Hirata Corporation (Kumamoto, Japan) has signed an agreement with Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (INTA) for the search and use of plant genetic resources for functional food, cosmetics, toiletries, and pharmaceutical development.

On December 9, 2019, HC and INTA, a public research institution under the Ministry of Agriculture of Argentina, established an agreement for plant genetics that are native or available to Argentina for the purpose of developing functional foods, cosmetics, toiletries, and pharmaceuticals. Both parties have signed an agreement to collect and evaluate resources jointly, conduct joint research and development, transfer materials to Japan, and commercialize globally.

This Agreement is based on the Argentine national legal systems, policies, as well as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1993) and Nagoya Protocol (2010), which are international agreements for sustainable use, conservation and share the benefit in fair and equitably for using genetic resources of Argentina. Accordingly, the Agreement includes non-monetary benefit sharing such as technology transfer to Argentina, and monetary benefit sharing such as distribution of royalties from the results obtained.

From 2020, it is planned that project activities through the domestic network of INTA will start. Argentina has 7.5 times wider than Japan from the northern tropical region to the cold regions of Patagonia and the high land cold regions of Andes. A new plant resource exploration and utilization project from a treasury of genetic resources blessed with various climates will be launched.

2. INTA overview:

INTA (National Institute of Agricultural Technology: INTA)

It is a public research institution under the Ministry of Fisheries (MINAGRI: Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca). In consideration of the regional characteristics of agricultural and livestock products produced in vast Argentina, INTA has 45 regional test centers (EEA) in each region in addition to the central research institute in Buenos Aires, the capital.

3. Effect on Hirata's business

There is little change in Hirata's consolidated earnings forecast on the current term since the research upon this agreement is based on a long-term perspective. We will release information immediately if any disclosed data arise.

4. Contact information

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