

Bangladesh



Region
South and Southeast Asia

UPOV membership status
No

Participation in OECD Seed Schemes
No

ISTA accredited member laboratories
No

GM crop approval for cultivation
Eggplant

Law on Plant Variety Protection
Plant Varieties Act of Bangladesh (draft from 1998); references to a new draft Plant Variety and Farmers' Right Protection Act have been found but not confirmed

Seed sector in Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) is the largest seed producer and supplier in the country, mandated to produce large quantities of seed. Agricultural research institutes (ARIs) are responsible for developing improved varieties of crops. Most of the plant breeding and seed production activities take place in the public domain.

The National Seed Policy (NSP), passed in 1993, played an important role in involving private companies in the rice and maize seed business. However, there is an increasing need to create a favorable enabling environment in order to encourage seed companies to invest in R&D.

In terms of GM crop cultivation, Bt eggplant is cultivated in Bangladesh. Nearly 27,000 smallholder farmers planted insect-resistant (Bt) eggplant in 2017, 4% of the country's eggplant area. The number of smallholder farmers adopting Bt eggplant is rising significantly.

Observations

Twenty-three index companies are present in Bangladesh, with many of the companies having testing locations. The Bangladeshi companies BRAC Seed and Agro Enterprise and Lal Teer Seed have complete seed value chains in the country, from breeding to extension. The former's extension services are carried out by the company's other business unit, Agriculture and Food Security Program.

Advanta has breeding, seed production and extension activities; Bayer has seed production and extension activities. Eleven companies test varieties in the country.

Smallholder farmers are involved in more than 90% of seed production activities by Advanta and Bayer, whereas only 40% of smallholder farmers are involved in seed production activities for Lal Teer Seed.

The development of more breeding stations, processing centers to ensure quality seed and the provision of extension services are all areas of improvement.

Company activities identified in Bangladesh

Company	Crops in portfolio		Company activities in country					
	Field crops	Vegetables	Breeding location	Testing location	Seed production	Processing location	Sales	Extension services
Acson HyVeg		●		●			●	
Advanta	●	●	●	●	●*		●	●
Bayer	●	●			●*		●	●
Bejo		●					●	
Bioseed							●	
BRAC Seed and Agro Enterprise**	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Charoen Pokphand	●	●					●	
Corteva Agriscience	●						●	
East-West Seed		●		●			●	
Kalash Seeds		●		●			●	●
Known-You Seed		●		●			●	●
KWS	●						●	
Lal Teer Seed**	●	●	●	●	●*	●	●	●
Limagrain		●					●	
Mahyco							●	
Monsanto							●	
Namdhari Seeds							●	
Nongwoo Bio		●		●			●	
Nuziveedu Seeds	●	●		●			●	●
Syngenta							●	

Other index companies are also active in the country. However, country-specific information for these companies is not available or was provided under non-disclosure.

* Company involves smallholder farmers in seed production activities

** Company headquartered in Bangladesh

Other local companies identified in the regional landscaping study and their activities

Company	Crops in portfolio		Company activities in country		
	Field crops	Vegetables	Breeding location	Seed production	Sales
Advanced Chemical Industries	●	●	●	●	●
Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC)	●	●	●	●	●
Supreme Seed	●	●	●	●	●



Access to Seeds
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