

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Brasília, April 2025 — The 2025 edition of the Non-GMO Summit Brazil has established itself as the leading meeting point for the non-GMO production chain in the country. The event took place on March 25–26, with its opening session hosted at Banco do Brasil's corporate headquarters in Brasília (DF). This was made possible thanks to the institutional support provided by André Castelo Branco Machado, a Banco do Brasil executive, who reinforced the bank's commitment to sustainability and the strengthening of responsible production chains.

The opening session welcomed key national and international stakeholders. Dr. Michael Suedbeck, representing VLOG – Food without Genetic Engineering, participated in person and shared regulatory updates from the German market. Also present was Vanderley Ziger, Secretary of Family Farming and Agroecology from the Brazilian Ministry of Agrarian Development (MDA), who highlighted the federal government's support for sustainable and diversified agricultural models, including non-GMO production.

Online speakers included Heike Moldenhauer, representing the European Non-GMO Industry Association (ENGA), and Emese Van Maanen from the ProTerra Foundation, both offering valuable insights into European market demands and sustainability strategies for the sector.

The initiative was organized by Instituto Soja Livre with support from FoodChain ID, and was sponsored by the following institutions and companies: VLOG – Food without Genetic Engineering, European Non-GMO Industry Association (ENGA), ProTerra Foundation, Instituto Soja Livre, FoodChain ID Brazil, Factum Consultoria, Sementes Quati, Caramuru Alimentos S.A., APROSMAT – Mato Grosso Seed Producers Association, Terra Way, Sementes Estrela do Cerrado, and A1 Comexport.

“Our goal has always been to bring together the main links of the Non-GMO supply chain in a space for genuine exchange, technical updates, and collaborative solution-building. This year, we took another important step in that direction,” said Guilherme Thomazzi, co-organizer of the event.

On the first day, participants attended a series of panels discussing topics such as demand from European and Asian markets, international certification standards, the role of laboratory testing in regulatory compliance, and the importance of traceability across the entire supply chain.

“Since the year 2000, Brazilian farmers — especially cooperatives and independent producers — have been able to add significant value to their crops by meeting the strict demands of markets like Europe and Asia with non-GMO soy. However, this potential is now under threat. Conventional soy production in Brazil continues to decline, even as national crop volumes grow — largely due to a lack of coordination across the supply chain. We are facing a real risk of losing a strategic, high-value market. Protecting and expanding this segment is essential to preserving the income of Brazilian farmers and processors.”

— Johnny Drescher, CEO of Drescher Consulting

He also warned that the moment calls for urgent, coordinated action between the private sector and public institutions to avoid the weakening of a chain that generates income, sustainability, and international leadership for Brazil.

On the second day, the agenda continued with a technical visit to Embrapa Cerrados, where participants were welcomed by the General Head and researcher Sebastião Pedro da Silva Neto, who presented research focused on sustainable agricultural production in the Cerrado biome.

The event concluded with a visit to the Quati Seeds farm in Goiás — a national benchmark in non-GMO production. Hosted by Jones Petry and Luiz Fiorese, attendees had the opportunity to learn firsthand about best practices in field management, segregation, traceability, and seed quality in conventional soy production.

“The certified Non-GMO value chain encompasses a broad range of sustainability criteria aligned with global demands for more rigorous supply chains — such as no-deforestation and low-carbon standards. In line with European production, which is legally required to be GMO-free, Brazil is uniquely positioned to supply the scale of volumes needed for animal protein production under Non-GMO certification. The Summit plays a key role in connecting science, markets, and sustainability — bridging Brazilian soy production with European retail,” said Fernando Nauffal, co-organizer of the event.

The 2025 edition reaffirms the Non-GMO Summit’s role as a high-level technical and strategic platform, promoting integration between science, markets, and sustainability — and strengthening Brazil’s position as a trusted supplier of non-genetically modified products.

About the Non-GMO Summit Brazil

The Non-GMO Summit is Brazil’s leading technical and strategic event dedicated to the non-GMO production chain. The Summit brings together producers, certifiers, laboratories, industries, exporters, and institutions to foster the sustainable development of the Non-GMO sector, based on innovation, quality, and market access.

More information:

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