



Technology at a Glance

Pioneer Hi-Bred has developed a novel, proprietary seed production system that will dramatically increase the efficiency of hybrid seed production. This advancement will build on Pioneer's industry-leading ability to respond to customer demands for reliable supplies of high quality hybrid seed corn.

- Projected Introduction*: Commercial hybrids derived from SPT are anticipated in 2011
- Technology Location: U.S.
- R&D Pipeline Phase: Phase 4, Pre-Launch
- Technology Use: Hybrid Seed Production

Technology Leader

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Productivity

+

Seed Quality

+

Reliability

Anticipating Needs

Seed Production Technology (SPT) is an efficient, large-scale production process that works with all Pioneer elite corn genetics and will allow Pioneer to meet customer demand with a reliable supply of superior hybrid seed corn products containing the high performance traits and technologies our customers expect.

Delivering Solutions

SPT is a unique approach to hybrid seed production that uses proprietary technology to create female inbred parents that do not shed pollen. This dramatically reduces the risk of female parents pollinating themselves, and ultimately improves the overall quality of the hybrid seed.

It is a greener technology that uses less equipment and labor in the fields than current production systems, allowing for a safer and more environmentally-friendly approach to hybrid seed production.

Current detasseling practices can damage corn plant leaves during the process and create possible yield loss. Seed Production Technology is a non-invasive process that preserves the corn plant, as well as potential yield, in hybrid seed production.

Delivering Value

Seed Production Technology is unique to Pioneer and reaffirms Pioneer's position as a technology leader. When fully adopted, Seed Production Technology will free up resources that can be reinvested in additional research and advanced trait development to help deliver the next generation of trait technologies and industry-leading germplasm.

*Pioneer® brand hybrids that are derived from Seed Production Technology will not be offered for sale or distribution until completion of field testing and approval by regulatory authorities.
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First Commercial SPT Hybrid Production Field Reinbeck, Iowa -- 2008



SPT field demonstrating beautiful rows of non-damaged corn plants.



Hand Detasseling

Physical detasseling practices involve removing the tops of the corn plant to prevent female self-pollination. For every leaf cut from a corn plant, approximately 3 to 5% of yield potential is lost from that plant.



Mechanical Detasseling