



## **BRS 201: Advanced Course on USDA APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) Regulations and Processes**

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This 8-h course is targeted at those who want more in depth instruction in BRS processes. It is an interactive class, where BRS personnel will talk about BRS regulatory authority and processes and then reinforce the discussions by dividing the audience into small work groups to go through examples. At relevant points, we will define the role of the States.

**Syllabus:** The course will include discussions on several areas related to regulation of genetically engineered (GE) organisms, such as:

- The Coordinated Framework
- USDA APHIS BRS regulatory authority, 7 CFR 340
- Other relevant Acts:
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- Notification and Permit processes for introductions of GE organisms
- Compliance and Inspection
- Petition and Extension processes for granting nonregulated status
- Policy Development
- International Activities

Attendees will listen to BRS presenters and then work in small groups on examples aimed at implementing what they just heard. For example, we will talk about the Notification process and then ask the groups to go through some example Notifications and determine if the regulated organism qualifies, etc. We will go over the Permit process, what makes it different from Notifications and then follow up with exercises to determine the types of conditions necessary to ensure confinement for some example GE organisms. We will talk in detail about our Compliance and Inspection activities, how BRS works with PPQ to conduct inspections and discuss the Pilot Program to train State Plant Regulatory Officials to conduct biotechnology inspections. There will be time for open discussion and a freeflow question and answer session.

**Registration:** There is no charge for this course and it is open to all State and Federal officials that are interested in learning more about BRS. Please contact Catherine Preston with questions or to register by email at [Catherine.A.Preston@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Catherine.A.Preston@aphis.usda.gov).