

PLANT BY-PRODUCTS: FRUIT, SEED, AND FIBER

- Plants can be valued in several ways, including use and existence values (Patterson and Randall 1984). Multi-use products may be valued by humans more than single use plant. Additionally, the release of a potential new food source for animals, birds and insects may have ecological consequences. Questions about the potential uses of the GM plant as well as impacts on the local biota should be considered.
- Will the GM plant have a use in the production of fabric materials or paper products?
- Is the GM plant likely to replace any plants that currently serve as a fiber commodity or fruit/seed source?
- Is the fruit edible by humans? What other species will utilize the fruits/seeds?
- Does any part of the plant have medicinal value? Use as a decorative product?

REFERENCES:

- Randall, A., & Peterson, G. L. (1984). *The valuation of wildland benefits: An overview* (pp. 1-52). Boulder, CO.: Westview Press.