Common beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) is a major staple food in Brazil. Most of the common bean production comes from the small growers (62%), but 1% of the growers with areas above 50 hectares contribute with 51% of the total yield. The crop is affected by many biotic and abiotic problems, with varying impacts on the final productivity and consequently the supply of this leguminous grain. Among the biotic constrains for increasing productivity is Bean golden mosaic virus (BGMV). By itself, this viral disease accounts for some 20% yield loss yearly, and may cause up to 100% losses of individual fields, depending on weather conditions favoring epidemics. Since there is no high level of resistance in the *Phaseolus* germplasm the biotechnological approach was a logical action. A bean line named Embrapa 5.1 was developed using the RNAi strategy completely resistant to BGMV both under greenhouse using high population of viruliferous whiteflies and natural field conditions. Brazil has a regulatory framework for genetically modified organisms (GM) since 1995, a law which was modified in 2005 to attend the country needs. The guidelines established by the National Technical Committee on Biosafety (CTNBio) were followed to design experiments needed to accumulate the data necessary for commercial approval of the bean line. The biosafety analysis was done on the bases of the molecular characterization of the event, stability of the transgene, inheritance and disease resistance, environmental effect, and a detailed evaluation of substantial equivalence based on both composition analysis and animal feeding experiments. A detailed document was submitted to CTNBio for analysis and was approved for commercial release in 2011. The process consisted of a public audience, open for questioning by the society in general. The document was made available to the public, including download, about one month before the final decision on approval by the committee. A commercial variety is still to be registered and commercialized by 2014/15 following the Brazilian regulation for plant varieties.

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