



**ABIOVE**

## **ABIOVE NEWSLETTER ON SOYBEAN SUSTAINABILITY 08/15/2007**

Brazilian Government has announced a 25% reduction on Legal Amazon deforestation between August/2005 and July /2006. Preliminary data indicates an additional decrease of up to 30% from August/2006 to July /2007.

This is the **MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY** announcement, from website – [WWW.MCT.GOV.BR](http://WWW.MCT.GOV.BR)

### **DEFORESTATION IN AMAZONIA DECREASES 25%**

The announcement was made today (10th) by the federal government, together with Luiz Antonio Elias, representing the Ministry of Science & Technology (MCT).



MCT's Executive Secretary, Luiz Antonio Elias,  
and Minister of the Environment, Marina Silva  
Photo: Daniel Lavenere - MCT

For the second consecutive year since 1988, when INPE (Spatial Research Institute) began monitoring deforestation in Legal Amazon, the rate of deforestation fell. INPE is linked to the MCT, the Ministry of Science & Technology.

The reduction was 25%, compared to the same period last year – from August to July of each year. This means that the total deforested area decreased from 18,793 km<sup>2</sup> to 14,039 km<sup>2</sup>.

Estimates for the next period, from August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007, show that

the reduction could be 30% compared to 2006 – an area of about 9,600 km<sup>2</sup>, with a plus or minus 10% margin for error.

The reduction was based on 211 Landsat images, 78 CBERS images and 23 DMC images, with identification by the Legal Amazon Deforestation Monitoring Project (PRODES), which is an integral part of the federal government's Amazon Deforestation Control & Prevention Plan.

According to Marina Silva, Minister of the Environment, this is the result of a concentrated effort involving government policy, led by President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who dared make a plan involving 13 ministries in the Amazon Deforestation Control & Prevention Plan.

"We divided up the responsibilities of looking after the Amazon Forest and, as a result, we are showing environmental governability", said the Minister.

The announcement was made today (10th) by Ministers Dilma Rouseff (President's Office), Marina Silva (Environment), Reinhold Stefhanes (Agriculture, Livestock and Supply Chain) and Guilherme Cassel (Agrarian Development) and by Executive Secretaries Luiz Antonio Elias (MCT) and Joao Paulo Capobianco (Environment), as well as Gilberto Camara (INPE director) and other representatives of the federal government.

## **GLOBAL WARMING**

The fall in deforestation over the last two years represented about 410 million tons of greenhouse gases that have not been released into the atmosphere. If INPE's estimate of a 30% reduction next year is confirmed, this amount will rise to 500 million tons.

This amount is about 10% of the first Kyoto Protocol commitment, which calculated a reduction by the rich countries of 4.5 billion tons of these gases for the 2008-2012 period.