

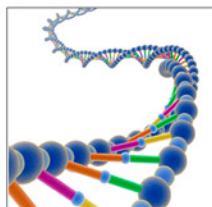
GMOs are created in a laboratory, using a new science with many unknown consequences



WHAT ARE GMOs?

GMOs (or “genetically modified organisms”) are organisms that have been created through the gene splicing techniques of biotechnology (also called genetic engineering, or GE). This relatively new science merges DNA from different species, creating combinations of plant, animal, bacteria and viral genes that cannot occur in nature or in traditional crossbreeding.

Virtually all commercial GMOs are bred to withstand direct application of herbicide and/or to produce an insecticide. Despite biotech industry promises, none of the GMO traits currently on the market offer increased yield, drought tolerance, enhanced nutrition, or any other consumer benefit. Meanwhile, a growing body of evidence connects GMOs with health problems, environmental damage and violation of farmers’ and consumers’ rights...



The gene splicing process changes DNA in ways that are beyond science’s current ability to measure

WHAT IS THE NON-GMO PROJECT?

The Non-GMO Project offers North America’s **ONLY** third party verification for products produced according to rigorous best practices for **GMO avoidance**. We require that every single batch of major risk ingredient used in a verified product (e.g. those derived from corn, soy, etc.) is tested before use, and is below our action threshold of 0.9%.

Absence of all GMO contamination is the goal for all Non-GMO Project Verified Products, and our standard uses a combination of traceability, segregation and testing requirements toward that end. Participants are verified through a rigorous examination of quality control documentation, including test results. Companies using major risk ingredients require an on-site audit prior to verification and evaluation is repeated on an annual basis.




The Non-GMO Project is a non-profit organization committed to preserving and building sources of non-GMO products, educating consumers, and providing verified non-GMO choices.



We support your right to know what’s in your food and to choose non-GMO/sans-OGM!



Answers to your questions about Genetically Modified Organisms:

-  What are they?
-  Are they safe?
-  How can I avoid GMOs?



Brought to you by the Non-GMO Project

A non-profit coalition committed to providing clearly labeled and independently verified non-GMO choices.

ARE GMOs SAFE TO EAT?

In 30 other countries around the world, including Australia, Japan, and all of the countries in the European Union, there are significant restrictions or outright bans on the production of GMOs, because they are not considered proven safe. In Canada on the other hand, the government has approved commercial production of GMOs based on studies conducted by the companies who created them and profit from their sale.

Many health-conscious shoppers find the results of rigorous, independent, scientific examination on the impact of consuming GM foods to be cause for concern.



In November 2008 a long-term feeding trial commissioned by the Austrian government found mice fed on GM corn had fewer offspring and lower birth rates than the control group. It will be years before we know if GMOs have a similar effect on humans.

ARE GMOs LABELED?



Unlike in the EU, Canada does not require labeling of GMO foods.

Unfortunately, even though polls consistently show that a significant majority of Canadians would like to be able to tell if the food they're purchasing contains GMOs, the federal government has chosen not to require that companies disclose this information. In the absence of mandatory labeling, the Non-GMO Project was created to give consumers the informed choice they deserve.

WHICH FOODS MIGHT BE GMO?

The following crops carry risk of being genetically modified, because GMO varieties are commercially produced in North America and certain other parts of the world, or because there are known instances of contamination. These crops may not be used in Non-GMO Project approved products unless verified as compliant with the Non-GMO Project Standard:

Alfalfa, Canola, Corn, Cotton, Flax, Papaya, Rice, Soy, Sugar Beets, Zucchini and Yellow Summer Squash.



Ingredients derived from these risk crops include (but are not limited to): Amino Acids, Aspartame, Ascorbic Acid, Sodium Ascorbate, Vitamin C, Citric Acid, Sodium Citrate, Ethanol, Flavorings ("natural" and "artificial"), Hydrolized Vegetable Protein, Lactic Acid, Maltodextrins, Microbial growth media, Molasses, Monosodium Glutamate, Sucrose, Textured Vegetable Protein (TVP), Xanthan Gum, Vitamins, Yeast Products.



Animal derivatives such as milk, meat, eggs, honey and other bee products, are also considered high-risk by the Non-GMO Project Standard, because of potential GMO contamination in feed and other inputs.

If a product contains any of the above items, your strongest assurance that the manufacturer has followed best practices for GMO avoidance is for the product to be "Non-GMO Project Verified." Other non-GMO claims are based on individual brands' internal standards and self-evaluation. Non-GMO Project claims, on the other hand, are backed by independent, third party audits to a transparent, consensus-based Standard.

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF GMOs ON THE ENVIRONMENT?



Over 80% of all GMOs grown worldwide are bred for herbicide tolerance. As a result, use of toxic herbicides like Roundup has increased 15 times since GMOs were introduced. Herbicide tolerant GMO crops are also responsible for the emergence of "super weeds," which can only be killed with ever more toxic poisons like 2,4-D (a major ingredient in Agent Orange). Beyond the problems posed by the fact that GMOs are a direct extension of chemical agriculture, they cannot be recalled once released in to the environment. The long-term impacts of these novel organisms on wild plants, animals and soil are unknown.



GMO technology is threatening farmers' rights to save their seed, as they have been doing for generations.

HOW DO GMOs EFFECT FARMERS?

Because GMOs are novel life forms, biotechnology companies have been able to obtain patents with which to restrict their use. As a result, the companies that make GMOs now have the power to sue farmers whose fields contain GMOs without a license, even if those GMOs are the result of inevitable drift from neighboring fields. GMOs therefore pose a serious threat to farmer sovereignty, and therefore to the national food sovereignty of any country where they are grown.

HOW CAN I AVOID GMOs?

Look for the Non-GMO Project Verified label on products. For more details about what this label means, see reverse.

