

Commission proposal on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques (NGTs)





European Commission

WHAT ARE NEW GENOMIC TECHNIQUES?

NGTs are techniques of genetic modification that can help breed new plant varieties faster, and with higher precision than conventional breeding techniques.

NGTs can produce a wide diversity of plant products. These plants may have only small changes that might also occur in nature or through conventional breeding or they may have more complex modifications.





Plants in R&D (JRC, 2021)





Parisi, C. and Rodriguez Cerezo, E., Current and future market applications of new genomic techniques, EUR 30589 EN, 2021, ISBN 978-92-76-30206-3, doi:10.2760/02472, JRC123830.

Why new rules?

- Current rules lag behind scientific and technological progress and are not designed to facilitate the development and placing on the market of innovative NGT products.
- The EU needs an adapted framework for safe NGT plants tailored to their specificities to provide benefits to farmers, consumers and the environment.

Objetives

- High level of protection of health and environment
- Developments to contribute to sustainability and climate adaptation in a wide range of plant species, especially for the agri-food system
- Opportunities for research and innovation, including for SMEs





Subject matter & scope

- Deliberate release into the environment for any other purpose than placing on the market (e.g. field trials)
 Plants obtained by targeted mutagenesis and cisgenesis, including intragenesis ('NGT plants')
- Placing on the market

- NGT plants
- NGT food/feed
- Other products containing/consisting of NGT plants



Two regulatory pathways

Category 1 – NGT plants equivalent to conventional

Verification procedure based on objective criteria

Subject to the rules applicable to conventionally bred plants

Seeds labelled as NGT

Information available in a public database and variety registers

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Monitoring and reporting

Prohibition in organic production





Category 2 – NGT plants not equivalent to conventional

Authorisation procedure with adapted risk assessment and detection method requirements

Traceability and labelling as GMO.

Voluntary statement on purpose of modification

Regulatory incentives for NGT plants with desirable traits

Coexistence measures; no opt-out

State of play and steps ahead





More information:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13119-Legislation-forplants-produced-by-certain-new-genomic-techniques https://food.ec.europa.eu/plants/genetically-modified-organisms/new-techniquesbiotechnology_en



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