

## Crop genome plasticity and its relevance to food safety of genetically engineered breeding stacks

Genetically engineered (GE) stacks (also known as stacked or combined events) are produced by combining two or more single transgenic events in a plant through conventional breeding. Although generating varieties with combined traits is fundamental in conventional breeding, GE stacks are sometimes viewed differently from conventionally bred non-GE crops with respect to risk and safety assessment. Two fundamental questions regarding safety assessment of GE stacks are: (1) Does the presence of more than one event increase genomic instability, and could such instability be hazardous, and (2) can interactions between the products of the transgenes impact safety?

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