

## Peru says no to GMO

*The following is an excerpt.*

Peru was the cradle of the Inca Empire, and today it's home to [many crops indigenous to the Americas](#). It has 400 varieties of potato alone, and a geography that allows farmers to grow almost anything.

It's also the only country in the Americas to put a 10-year ban on genetically modified food, with a law that was first introduced in 2011, and went into effect at the end of last year. Its basic intention, say Schiaffino and others, is to protect Peru's biodiversity, as well as the practices that have kept it intact for so long.

"In the end, it's not a law that's 'against' anything," says Antonietta Gutierrez, a biologist at Peru's National Agrarian University. "This is a law in favor of biosecurity. The idea is that there should be a responsible way of using technology, so that it helps us develop resources – and at the same time, doesn't destroy what we already have."

**View the original article here: [Peru says no to GMO](#)**