

## How GM foods are determined safe to eat in Australia

Foods produced using gene technology are prohibited from sale in Australia and New Zealand unless they have undergone strenuous pre-market assessment and been approved by Food Standards Australia New Zealand ([FSANZ](#)).

FSANZ identifies new or altered hazards associated with the food as a result of the genetic modification. It assesses whether there is risk associated with any identified hazards under the intended conditions of use, and determine if any new conditions are needed to enable safe use of the food. It also assesses any altered composition or nutritional value introduced by genetic modification to the organism.

The only GM foods which have been approved for sale in Australia after a case-by-case analysis are specific GM varieties of canola, corn, cotton, lucerne, potato, rice, soybean and sugarbeet. These case-by-case [safety assessments](#) are publicly accessible.

FSANZ is aligned with the principles established by the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the World Health Organisation Food Standards Program ([FAOWHOFSP](#)) and the [Codex Alimentarius](#) committee.

**Read the full, original article:** [Safety first – assessing the health risks of GM foods](#)