

Farmers who embrace science of GMOs often reject science of climate change

A contentious issue in the upcoming Colorado and Oregon GMO labeling referendums is the perceived safety of consuming genetically modified foods.

Question a representative of the National Corn Growers Association or the American Farm Bureau Federation about the safety of eating GMOs and you'll rightly be scolded about the scientific evidence that consuming those crops is as safe as any other.

These representatives of the American farm lobby wield enormous political clout with conservative and rural lawmakers. They also influence farmers' decisions. But, ironically, they are AWOL when it comes to publicly communicating the consensus on the science behind the single greatest threat to agriculture, which is human-induced climate change.

What's the result of this willful ignorance?

A U.S. Department of Agriculture survey [released this year](#) revealed that a scant 7.8 percent of corn belt farmers believe that human activity causes climate change. Compare that to the fact that [93 percent of 2014's planted corn](#) was genetically modified.

A huge gulf exists in farmer attitudes toward science. Growers clearly accept the scientific evidence that modified food is safe while rejecting the scientific evidence that climate change is real and caused by human activity. And this chasm is driven by simple economics. One finding makes farmers money, but the other doesn't – yet.

Climate change is swiftly re-writing the rules for all of U.S. agriculture. The havoc wrought by a warming atmosphere will have profound effects on our food and farm system. We need to enlist the entire U.S. agriculture sector if we hope to reduce emissions to tolerable levels and thrive in a changing climate.

Read full original article: [GMOs Expose Dangerous "Science" Disconnect in Agriculture](#)