

Why traditional hybrids deserve Frankenfood label more than GMOs

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

Traditional breeding practices include: altering a breed's *entire genome* by selecting for a particular trait (often with unintended consequences on the rest of the genome), creating *entirely new organisms* that are *50% one species* and *50% another species*, and using radiation and chemicals to induce completely *random, uncontrolled, and unpredictable mutations*. In contrast, GMOs are made by carefully and precisely modifying or inserting a *handful* of genes. Think about that for a minute. Let it really sink in. Anti-GMO activists freak out over “Frankenfoods” and the potential of unintended allergens and toxins from modifying or inserting one or two genes, yet traditional crops are made by modifying the *entire genome*! How can anyone possibly think that deliberately and precisely changing a very specific set of genes is dangerous, but randomly and unpredictably mutating the genome is just fine? Why should we call something a “Frankenfood” for having one or two genes from another species when hybrids are universally acceptable even though *half* of their genes came from a different species?

Read full, original post: [The real Frankenfoods](#)