

Vermont's GMO law has 'turbo boosted' demand for imported non-GMO sugar cane

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

A push by some U.S. food manufacturers to steer clear of genetically modified agricultural products has increased demand for cane sugar at the same time that cane refiners are having a difficult time securing supplies, potentially straining the country's controversial support program.

Cane refiners. . . are scrambling to secure supplies to satisfy the growing appetite for cane sugar as an increasing number of food companies move away from ingredients derived from genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Vermont's new requirements for food companies to label GMO ingredients have "turbo boosted" the trend toward cane, said one buyer. . . .

It has also pressured prices of sugar from beets, almost all of which are GMO. . . . Beet sugar's share of the U.S. market is at a record low, according to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) dating back to 1992, while cane sugar's share has risen to the highest in nearly two decades.

A 2014 trade pact with Mexico set an import quota for sugar from the country, which is entirely cane. The sweetener is still flowing in, but a greater portion is going to plants that make liquid sugar or directly to manufacturers, stoking concerns that less bulk refined cane sugar will be available later in the year.

Read full, original post: [Rising demand for cane strains U.S. sugar industry](#)