

## Observer editorial: Europe can no longer turn its back on benefits of GMOs

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For a generation, a campaign by the green movement against the growing of genetically modified crops has held sway across Europe. These foodstuffs are a threat to health, the environment and the small independent farmer, NGOs have argued. As result, virtually no [GM](#) crops have been grown on Europe's farms for the past 25 years...In fact, most scientific reports have indicated that they are generally safe, both to humans and the environment.

This point was endorsed last week when a 20-strong committee of experts from the US National Academies of Science announced the results of its trawl of three decades of scientific studies for "persuasive evidence of adverse health effects directly attributable to consumption of foods derived from genetically engineered crops". It found none.

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GM crops are not the only way to solve humanity's woes but they have considerable potential. The inference is therefore clear. We can no longer afford to turn our backs on the cultivation of genetically modified crops in our fields in coming years.

**Read full, original post:** [The Observer view on the GM crops debate](#)