

Costs to develop GMO potato comparable to conventional varieties

A recent study published in the *International Journal of Biotechnology* demystifies the belief that releasing a [GM crop](#) costs tens, if not hundreds, of millions of U.S. dollars. The study assessed the cost and time of developing a GM late blight resistant (LBr) potato variety for deregulation and release as a public good, in a specific developing country. Two independently not-for-profit assessed projects have estimated that to deliver one LBr variety to resource-poor [farmers](#) in a developing country, it would cost between US\$1.3-1.5 million, within a period of eight to nine years. Such costs are not far from a conventionally-bred variety. . .

Publicly funded institutions have been deterred from developing [biotech crops](#) because of the cost implications attached to the process of developing and releasing a GM variety. . . . These findings therefore suggest that public institutions in developing countries can make significant contribution to crop improvement through [genetic engineering](#).

The paper titled *Demystification of GM crop costs: releasing late blight resistant potato varieties as public goods in developing countries* is available online using DOI: 10.1504/IJBT.2016.077942.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Cost of Developing a GM Crop Demystified](#)