False narrative that farming should be 'natural' distorts public's view of GMOs

I believe that some false narratives have taken over the public imagination; and these make it difficult for facts to break through.

One is that most people think of farming as continuous with nature, while biotech as a form of human engineering. And they would prefer that engineers not tinker with nature at all.

In my opinion, this view is based on ignorance. Farming has seen plenty of <u>tinkerers</u>, engineers, and <u>nature-meddlers</u> over the millennia; it is just that when a form of engineering... gets a couple of generations under its belt, it is... seen as part of tradition. This is exactly what happened to another farming technology that one could more <u>properly consider a Frankenfood</u> [French wine grapes in the 1860's]...

...When it comes to human engineering... early flaws are to be expected. But nature... is seen as always perfect and any tinkering with it is seen as a fall from that state of original glassy wholeness. This is why, as I pointed out above, people judge biotechnology with the yardstick of perfection.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: My view on genetically-modified crops