What are the benefits and concerns about GMOs?

As the population increases, there is an ever-greater need for increases in crop yields on the same amount of land. In addition, an increase focus on food safety, sustainability, reduced agricultural inputs, and reduction of pesticides, puts further pressure on crops and growers. Thus, some have turned to genetically engineered crops as a way to meet the demands of a changing world.

The manipulation of the genetic make-up of crops raises numerous concerns and questions for many consumers. Should these products be regulated? Are they safe? What are the benefits of GMOs?

Concerns about Genetic Engineering

- Is genetic engineering natural?
- Are genetically engineered crops safe to eat?
- Can genetic material from genetically engineered crops spread in pollen?
- Do patents or genetic traits cause concern?
- Are food cultures affected by genetic engineered crops?
- Does genetic engineering foster monoculture farming?
- Do genetically engineered crops cause loss of biodiversity?
- Do genetically engineered crops promote pesticide use?

Benefits of Genetic Engineering

- Human health and nutrition
- Less pesticide
- Environmentally friendly pest control
- Lower environmental footprint
- Soil conservation
- Increase yield
- Reduced labor costs
- Higher profits
- Stress-tolerant crops

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: <u>Genetically Engineered Crops: Emerging Opportunities</u>