

## India's agriculture ministry has 'no reservations about promoting GM mustard'

The agriculture ministry ... said it has no reservations about GM mustard, which has been cleared by an expert panel GEAC, and will promote genetically modified (GM) crops if approved by the Environment Ministry.

On May 11, Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) had recommended commercial cultivation of a GM mustard variety, developed by Delhi University's Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants, in a submission to the Environment Ministry, which is yet to give the final approval.



Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh

"Whatever crops are notified, be it GM or non-GM, if scientists approve it, then our ministry's mandate is to increase production, productivity, bring down cost of production and ensure right price to farmers" Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh said, when asked if his ministry will promote GM mustard.

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The process takes time and definitely it will not be available for cultivation this year. This is a crop grown in association with government research body ICAR, he added.

The GEAC had given a 'positive' recommendation to the widely-consumed crop, but with 'certain conditions'. With its green signal, GM Mustard is a step closer to becoming India's first edible GM crop.

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Agriculture Ministry will promote GM mustard if approved by Environment Ministry](#)**