

## Which foods does the USDA's proposed 'bioengineered' label cover?

The United States Department of Agriculture has [proposed new guidelines](#) for labeling foods that contain genetically modified ingredients. Food makers will be required by federal law to use the labels, starting in 2020.

The safety of genetically modified ingredients, widely known as G.M.O.s, remains a source of anxiety for some Americans despite the [scientific studies](#) that say they pose no health threat.

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### **Do the labels cover all genetically engineered foods?**

No. New gene-editing technologies let scientists tweak the DNA of plants and animals with great speed and precision, often by [deleting a snippet of genetic information](#), or by inserting a desirable trait from one breed into [another of the same species](#). Crops that contain such changes, which could theoretically be achieved through conventional breeding, or occur through a natural mutation, are excluded from the proposed labels.

The labels may also exempt highly refined sugars and oils, like those made from genetically modified sugar beets and corn, which typically contain no genetic material after being processed. ... Foods whose primary ingredient is non-G.M.O. meat, like beef stew, also don't have to be labeled, even if they contain other genetically engineered ingredients.

**Read full, original post:** [G.M.O. Foods Will Soon Require Labels. What Will the Labels Say?](#)