

## Following America's lead, Japan won't regulate gene-edited crops as GMOs

A government panel has decided not to regulate some genome editing procedures.

The latest technology involves changing an organism's genomes by targeting a specific location in the DNA sequence and causing a mutation.

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The panel decided that the regulation governing genetic recombination would apply to organisms that have had new genes inserted into a targeted location. However, the panel says the regulation will not apply to genome editing in which mutations are produced at a targeted site without new genes inserted.

It will also not apply to cases in which nothing remains of the inserted gene and its derivative in the final products, even if the organism is genetically recombined temporarily.

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[T]he United States has decided not to .... restrict any of the methods of genome editing. But in Europe, the EU's Court of Justice [called] for the application of the same rules governing genetic recombination to genome editing.

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Hideharu Anazawa of the Japan Bioindustry Association says there are few risks associated with genome editing and that stricter regulations are unthinkable. He says the panel's conclusion appropriately reflects the risks of genome editing.

**Read full, original article:** Govt. panel to not regulate some genome editing