

Viewpoint: Europe's 'de facto' GMO crop ban, mandatory labeling scheme 'hinder innovation'

An excellent new [paper](#) from a trio of Danish [researchers](#), two of whom are based out of the University of Copenhagen, [argues](#) that the European Union's stance on farming with GMO crops is an untenable mess. The paper concludes that "neither de facto [GMO] bans nor mandatory labeling can be justified," and the researchers [assert](#) that current E.U. rules—which embrace both de facto bans and mandatory labeling of foods containing GMO ingredients—are backward and "hinder[] agricultural innovation."

[T]he researchers sought to determine whether the most common arguments for restricting GMOs justify the E.U.'s decidedly anti-GMO policies. The authors first explain the current E.U. GMO policies. They then turn to a discussion of the grounds for those policies, including risk mitigation and other stated non-risk justifications for restricting genetic modification or gene editing (such as their purported unnaturalness).

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Farming with GMOs in Europe is a tough row to hoe, as the paper explains. The E.U.'s convoluted "pre-release authorization" process for getting a GMO crop (or food containing GMO ingredients) to market keeps those crops from ever getting there

Read full, original article: [New Research Shows the European Union's Anti-GMO Rules Are Ridiculously Bad](#)