

UK may reject strict EU GMO rules, but nation's farmers can't grow biotech crops yet

British farmers could get the chance to plant genetically modified crops as part of Boris Johnson's Brexit plans.

The new prime minister wants the U.K. to "liberate" its bioscience sector from rules against genetically modified organisms That would mark a shift from much of the European Union, which largely has restrictions on such crops amid concerns about environmental or health impacts.

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Johnson's proposals could encourage more research investment into the sector and will be welcomed by the industry However, it could be a while before GMO crops are widely adopted in Britain and sales to the EU will remain a barrier [I]t may take time to develop seeds suitable to the U.K.'s climate and needs.

The industry may also have to spend more time and money keeping GMO crops separate from traditional varieties until they gain market access, said Dylan Bradley, senior analyst for IHS Markit.

"It's not enough just to say the government's OK with it," Bradley said. "It has to be commercially viable.

Read full, original article: [Boris Johnson's Call for U.K. GMO Crops Draws Support From Farm Union](#)