

‘GMO debate controlled by non-scientific groups to the detriment of global hunger’, writes Harvard economist

Activists who mistakenly believe that GMOs are dangerous to consume have teamed up with pesticide and insecticide sellers to restrict the world's poor from life-saving technologies.

This is a tragedy.

GMOs increase crop yields, improve the nutritional value of crops, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Those who want to improve standards of living and care for the environment should be appalled by GMO restrictions around the world.

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Unlike conventional plant or animal breeding, which combines all the genes from two sources, GMOs are created by tweaking an organism's genetic code. This allows for more precise alterations, such as insertion of a disease-resistant gene or one that produces more vitamin C.

...

This makes them well-suited to increase food security and lift farmers out of poverty. Farmers in poor countries lack access to the seed selection, farm equipment, fertilizers, pesticides, and irrigation technologies that are widespread in wealthy countries. Without these products, their crops are more susceptible to weeds and pests and [yield substantially less than crops in the developed world](#).

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The GMO debate continues to be controlled by non-scientific groups to the detriment of global hunger and efforts to lower emissions. Governments, particularly those of impoverished nations, should lift their bans and allow full access to GMOs.

[**This is an excerpt. Read the original post here**](#)