

‘Gene-edited crop regulations should be based on the product not the process’: UN’s FAO assesses impact of CRISPR and new breeding techniques on food

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has released a [report](#) on food safety considerations for regulating foods derived from gene editing (also known as “genome editing”) to help The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reviewed food safety issues related to gene editing....

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FAO said it was desirable to avoid setting rules and regulations on process and production methods that do not directly impact product safety.

“Including onerous requirements in the regulatory frameworks without a scientific basis should be avoided, otherwise the implementation of such regulations can become a burdensome compliance issue rather than the ultimate objective of consumer protection.”

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A review of Codex guidelines showed that existing protocols such as food safety risk analysis and guidance on food safety assessment processes can be tailored and applied to the safety assessment of gene-edited foods.

The possible effects of gene editing on food safety, quality, and trade are not expected to be much different from what already exists on foods from pre-existing breeding techniques, said FAO.

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