

Viewpoint: Why we need to get over our gene-editing fears and embrace optimized, climate-resilient crops

As the planet warms, gene editing is one of our greatest hopes for developing resilient crops that allow for adaptation.

Yet a warming planet and the advances of genomic technologies in other industries have [not led](#) to the widespread embrace of a new paradigm for crop breeding in agriculture. To get the most out of these technologies, we need a regulatory framework that keeps up with the science—and we need to take the public along for the journey.

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In Europe, where I have lived for much of my career, the technology of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) is still not welcomed, even though [studies](#) consistently demonstrate the safety of the foods already on the market, some for more than three decades.

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We must not shy away from the use of biotech tools in agriculture, but rather deploy them rationally and transparently. CRISPR will allow for better-quality food with more sustainable production. For example, a label could be added to seed bags that includes information about the use and advantages of gene editing. I am convinced that increasing transparency is the way to increase trust. Let’s allow people to make choices that are good for their health and the planet.

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