Viewpoint: Despite a sea of environmental activist disinformation, GMO plants have more than lived up to the hype

There is a great deal of misinformation out there regarding genetically modified organisms (GMOs). From monikers like "Frankenfoods" to general skepticism, there has been a variety of biased reactions to these organisms, even though we as a species have been genetically modifying our foods in one way or another for approximately 10,000 years. Perhaps some of this distrust will be put to rest with the emergence of a new meta-analysis that shows GM corn increases crop yields and provides significant health benefits.

The analysis, which was *not* limited to studies conducted in the U.S. and Canada, showed that GMO corn varieties have increased crop yields worldwide 5.6 to 24.5 percent when compared to non-GMO varieties.

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For this study, published in the journal *Scientific Reports*, a group of Italian researchers [examined] over 6,000 peer-reviewed studies from the past 21 years.

There have been, for a variety of largely unscientific reasons, serious concern surrounding the effects of GMOs on human health. This analysis confirms that not only do GMOs pose no risk to human health, but also that they actually could have a substantive positive impact on it.

In their analysis, the researchers stated that this study allows us "to draw unequivocal conclusions, helping to increase public confidence in food produced with genetically modified plants."

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