

89TH ADVISORY FORUM
VIRTUAL, 4-5 OCTOBER

NEW GENOMIC TECHNIQUES SOCIETAL INSIGHTS

Domagoj Vrbos , COM



WHAT KIND OF A TOPIC ARE WE DEALING WITH HERE?

Knowledge

Just over a third of Europeans have heard about NGTs

Awareness is highest among younger populations (18-25)

Almost 8 in 10 cannot tell the differences with “old techniques”

Perceived impact across different areas (human health, climate change, food security) is neutral on average

People worried about GMs tend to perceive impact less positively; those who know more about NGTs are more positive

Perception for risks linked to plants lower than for animals

Perception

Information

Risk assessment information most important to citizens (“What potential risks are?”)

Regulation also in top 3 areas of interest (“What is done to regulate and control NGTs?”)

People that follow food safety information closely tend to be less concerned

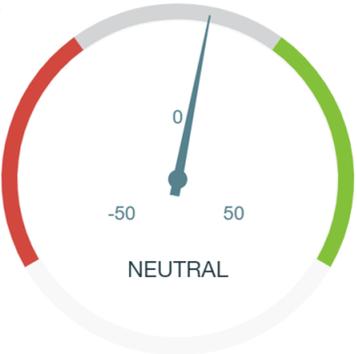


SOCIAL MEDIA DATA CONFIRM OUR FINDINGS



3

Sentiment is overall neutral with some polarised views



2

Discourse peaked on 05 July with EC proposal but returned to lower level soon after

1

Overall, discourse is limited and lower than other topics we monitor (e.g. novel foods, food additives)

Source: EFSA [social media monitoring](#) (Sep 2022 to Sep 2023)



SO HOW DO WE STRIKE A BALANCE?

Communication on available evidence

FAQ: Criteria for risk assessment of plants produced by targeted mutagenesis, cisgenesis and intragenesis

Published: 18 October 2022 | 6 minutes read | Updated: 25 May 2023

In a statement published today, EFSA's scientists have proposed six main criteria to assist the risk assessment of plants produced using the genetic engineering techniques of *targeted mutagenesis*, *cisgenesis* and *intragenesis*. The European Commission asked us for this scientific advice to support their ongoing policy initiative on new genomic techniques.

KNOWLEDGE

New genomic techniques

PERCEPTION

Stakeholder Event on 'The safety of plants derived from New Genomic Techniques: looking into future risk assessment challenges'

12 December 2022, 14.00 - 17.00 (CET)
Online

Engagement with interested parties

New genomic techniques - the way forward for safe and sustainable innovation in the agri-food sector

High-level event

The European Commission organised on 29 November 2021 a high-level event to provide a forum for a transparent and constructive debate on how the EU could develop a regulatory framework on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques (targeted mutagenesis and cisgenesis) that combines high levels of safety while reaping the benefits of innovation.

Three panels discussed the contribution of new genomic techniques to sustainability, risk assessment as well as traceability/labelling of products resulting from new genomic techniques.

- The programme and the biographies of speakers are [found here](#)

Source: [Special issue follow-up to ONE conference social science session](#) (Communication planning; Participatory approaches)



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