

NO GMO SALAD!



TAKE ACTION

Stopping GM greens now is critical.

SEEDS

If you are a market gardener, home gardener or greens producer:

Make sure you are buying non-GM *Brassica juncea* seeds and lettuce seeds/salad mixes.

Check for a list of companies committed to selling non-GMO seeds at

cban.ca/nonGMOvegseeds

SALAD GREENS

Write to the head office of your grocery store and ask them not to sell any GM greens or other GM vegetables. Take action at

cban.ca/grocerystorecontacts

SUBSCRIBE

Scan here to subscribe for updates and action alerts in the NO GMO SALAD campaign



cban.ca/gmosalad

CANADIAN BIOTECHNOLOGY ACTION NETWORK

CBAN provides the latest research, updates and action on GM foods, crops and animals in Canada.

CBAN MEMBERS: Canadian Organic Growers, Council of Canadians, Ecological Farmers of Ontario, Ecology Action Centre Nova Scotia, Growers of Organic Food Yukon, No More GMOs Toronto, Greenpeace Canada, Inter Pares, National Farmers Union, GMO Free PEI, Organic Agriculture Protection Fund of Saskatchewan, Union Paysanne, SeedChange, Vigilance OGM.

CBAN is a project of MakeWay Charitable Society, a registered charity.

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Collaborative Campaigning for Food Sovereignty and Environmental Justice



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CBAN.CA

JANUARY 2025

ALERT! GMO SALAD GREENS

Bayer (formerly Monsanto) is preparing to sell genetically engineered (genetically modified or GM) salad greens and seeds in the US and Canada in 2025. These GM greens (*Brassica juncea*) are mustard greens that are gene edited to taste less mustardy. The spicy mustard flavour was removed so they could be advertised as more nutritious than lettuce: “leafy greens that don’t bite back! (a mustard green that eats like a lettuce).”

The GM greens will likely appear in grocery store produce sections in packaged salad mixes.

Bayer says it is in discussions with a major home garden supplier to sell the GM seeds to home and market gardeners.

WHAT ARE NEW GMOS? GENE EDITING IS NEW GENETIC ENGINEERING

Gene editing is a collection of new genetic engineering (genetic modification or GM) techniques that alter the genetic material (usually DNA) of plants, animals and other organisms, to create **genetically modified organisms (GMOs)**. These techniques aim to insert, delete or otherwise change a DNA sequence at a specific, targeted site in the genome. (The genome is the entire set of genetic material in an organism, including DNA.)

NO GOVERNMENT SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

The Canadian government has removed regulation for gene edited plants if these GMOs have no foreign DNA (no DNA from other species). This means that many gene edited plants and foods can enter our food system and environment without any government safety assessments or independent science, and no notification to farmers or consumers. There is no government approval process and no government oversight. **Corporations can assess the safety of their own products.**

GM FOOD IN CANADA	WHERE	WHAT
1. CORN	In processed food and animal feed, and a very small amount of GM sweet corn	<i>Herbicide-tolerant & insect-resistant</i>
2. CANOLA	As oil in processed food and animal feed	<i>Herbicide-tolerant</i>
3. SOY	In processed food (not in tofu or soy milks)	<i>Herbicide-tolerant</i>
4. SUGARBEET (white)	Processed into sugar	<i>Herbicide-tolerant</i>
5. ALFALFA	Animal feed	<i>Herbicide-tolerant & low-lignin</i>
6. SALMON (Atlantic)	Production stopped (2024)	<i>Faster growing</i>
7. PAPAYA	Imported from the US or China	<i>Virus-resistant</i>
8. SQUASH	Imported from the US only	<i>Virus-resistant</i>
9. PINEAPPLE	Whole pineapple, in a few grocery stores	<i>Pink coloured flesh</i>
GM FOODS COMING SOON?		
SALAD GREENS	Packaged fresh salad greens, lettuce mixes	<i>Mustard greens with less pungent flavour</i>
APPLE	Bagged sliced apples sold in the US	<i>Non-browning</i>
POTATO	Innate brand “White Russet” sold in the US	<i>Non-browning, less acrylamide</i>

cban.ca/gmfoods

FIRST GENE-EDITED VEGETABLE

These GM leafy greens will be the first gene-edited vegetable in North America (produced using CRISPR), and only the second genetically modified vegetable grown in Canada (after GM sweet corn).

There is no mandatory GM food labelling in Canada. Because these gene-edited greens are not regulated by the government, **Bayer is not even required to notify the government** or public when or if this product is on the market.

A THREAT TO SEED SOVEREIGNTY, BIODIVERSITY AND FARMERS

Bayer’s GM greens represent increasing corporate control over seed varieties and the beginning of many new types of GM fruits and vegetables. **Bayer is the largest seed company in the world.** Six companies now control 58% of the global seed market.

If GM green seeds are sold, it will be the first time GM seeds are marketed to home and market gardeners in Canada. **Targeting small growers** with these GM seeds puts non-GMO plants at risk of contamination, threatening the tradition of seed-saving and the preservation of heritage seeds. GM contamination also threatens organic farmers’ livelihoods because organics prohibits the use of GMOs.

GM GREENS ARE JUST THE BEGINNING

By introducing unlabelled, unregulated gene-edited vegetables into grocery store produce sections and by selling GM seeds to small gardeners, **Bayer is testing the market** to expand into other gene-edited fruits and vegetables.