

ENSURE GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT & TRANSPARENCY

Stop corporate self-regulation:

- Don't let companies sell new seeds without disclosing that they are genetically modified.
- Don't let companies decide the safety of their own GM seeds & foods, without any government safety checks.

These changes will mean:

- No independent government food safety and environmental assessments of many new GMOs.
- Companies can put new some GM seeds on the market without telling the government, or farmers that the seeds are GM.
- Companies can sell some GM foods without notifying Health Canada.

Why it matters:

- Farmers need to know what seeds they're buying.
- Organic farmers need to know if seeds have been gene edited because all GMOs are prohibited under the Canada Organic Standards.
- Most Canadians want GMOs labelled.

TAKE ACTION

Stop undisclosed, unregulated GMOs.

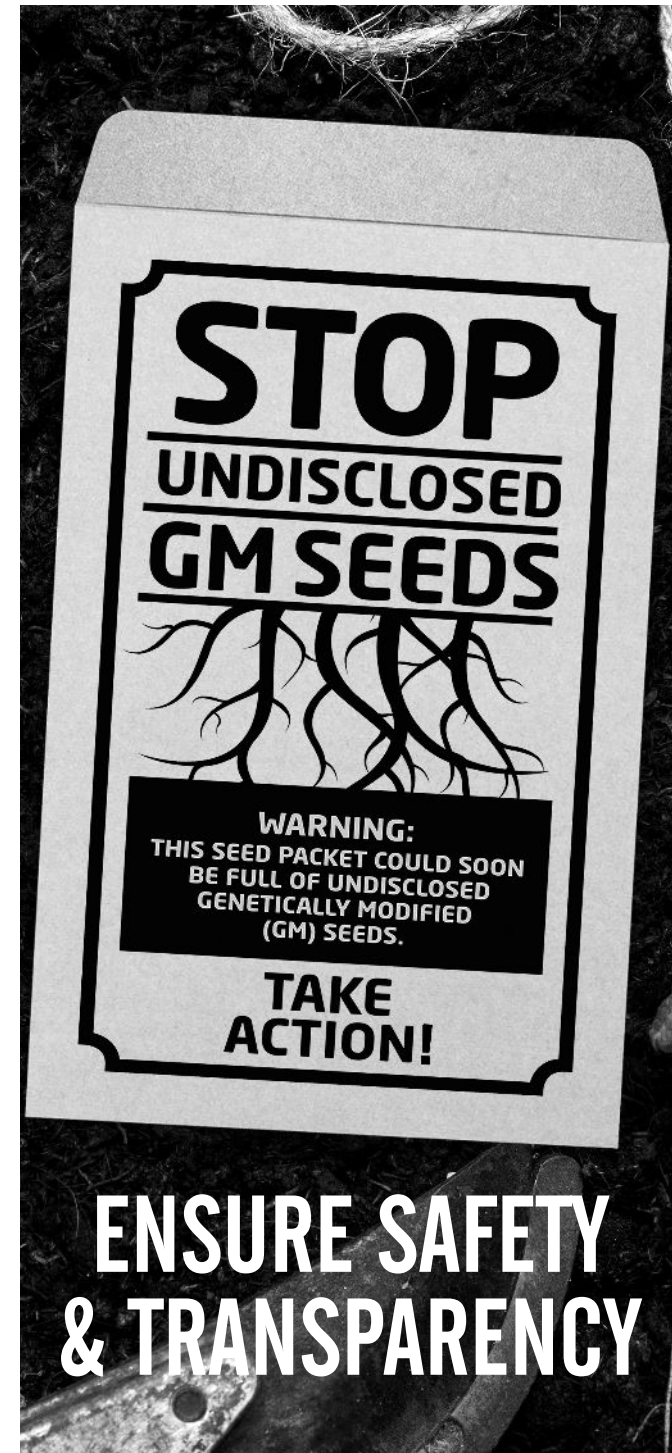
Farmers are sending seed packets in the mail to the Minister of Agriculture. The seed packets carry a warning that the sale of undisclosed GM seeds would threaten the future of organic food and farming.

ADD YOUR VOICE.

Take action at
cban.ca/NoExemptions

Updates:

- In January 2023, the President of the CFIA resigned.
- The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food is now pledging to ensure transparency and traceability of all GMOs.



ENSURE SAFETY & TRANSPARENCY

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ALERT

Federal ministers are removing GMO regulation.

The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food is considering letting corporations conduct their own environmental safety assessments of many new gene-edited seeds. Companies will also not have to report these new genetically modified (GM or genetically engineered) seeds to the government.

The Minister of Health has already decided that many gene edited foods don't need any government safety checks.

There will be no government approval process.

Instead of government safety evaluations, **companies will assess the safety their own genetically modified organisms (GMOs)**, with no government oversight.

These regulatory exemptions will apply to gene-edited GM plants that have no foreign DNA (there is no DNA from other species incorporated).

Unregulated, unreported GM foods and seeds will be sold and grown in Canada.

Farmers, consumers, and the government itself, may not know that some of these new GM foods and seeds exist because it companies will not be required report them to the government or the public.

THIS IS CORPORATE SELF-REGULATION.

CORPORATE TAKE-OVER

Biotechnology companies would benefit the most from being able to skip government regulation. Companies will control all of the information about their GMOs, including all of the science on safety.

Secret GMOs will begin to contaminate the entire food system. This is a major threat to organic food and other non-GMO choices.

*In 2022, Radio-Canada exposed that the biotech and pesticide industry **lobby group CropLife Canada created a government document proposing these changes.** A CFIA document summarizing the proposals was created on the computer of the Executive Director of CropLife.*

CropLife members include the biggest seed and pesticide companies in the world. The markets for GM crops are dominated by six giant seed and pesticide companies. **Six companies now control 58% of the global seed market and 78% of the global pesticide market.**

Bayer and Corteva (DowDuPont) control 40% of the seed market, and **Bayer and Syngenta** Group control 41% of the pesticide market.



The lobby group CropLife Canada includes the biggest biotech seed companies in the world: Bayer, Syngenta, Corteva.
cban.ca/CorporateControl

In 2021, 105 groups send letter to the ministers calling for transparency and government oversight of all genetically modified foods:

Call for Transparency and Government Oversight of All Genetically Engineered Foods and Seeds: No Regulatory Exemptions

We demand government oversight of all genetically engineered foods and seeds including those produced through gene editing. All genetically engineered foods and seeds should be subject to government safety assessments and mandatory reporting to government.

We call on the Ministers of Health and Agriculture and Agri-Food to commit to transparency and independent science in the regulation of all genetically engineered organisms for use in food and farming.

We oppose the sale of unregulated, unreported genetically engineered foods and seeds. We oppose the proposals from Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) that would allow many gene-edited genetically engineered foods and seeds onto the market with no government oversight.

Gene editing can make significant changes to a plant's genome without introducing DNA from another species - by deleting genetic material, for example. Gene editing can be imprecise, and even making small changes in a DNA sequence can have big effects. Possible unintended effects need to be looked for and assessed for safety. Proposals to exempt gene-edited GMOs from regulation if they have no foreign DNA are simplistic and overlook important safety issues that can result from the process of gene editing.