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Genetically modified foods are not acceptable to many of us. We do not want to consume them. If the proposed changes go ahead, we will not know about the gene technologies used to produce some of our food. We need to know so we know which foods to avoid. It is as simple as that.

For that reason I oppose proposed changes to the Food Code that would allow foods made using procedures that have not been shown to be safe to be sold without labels revealing their sources. FSANZ is responsible for the safety of our food. It should not allow foods made using novel GM technology to sneak in.

It is naive to trust agrochemical companies will self-assess the safety of their GM foods. They do not have a good track record. Those with commercial profit in mind should not be making the decisions about these matters.

Gene editing techniques make genetic changes that could never occur in nature and to result in widespread genetic damage that often goes undetected by GM developers.

Should Australia be one of very few countries in the world to allow genetically modified animal products into our food chain with no regulation or labelling? I would answer, "No".

I support expanding the definition for 'gene technology' so FSANZ continues to assess and regulate all techniques and methods of genetic modification, other than conventional breeding.

We should not deregulate new and future GM procedures that produce food with untested risk.

Yours sincerely,

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