

# CALIFORNIA & GMOs

## WE SUPPORT FEDERAL "GMO" LABELING UNIFORMITY LEGISLATION

We urge Congress to pass bipartisan legislation, such as H.R. 1599, *the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act*, which would create national GMO labeling uniformity, answer questions consumers might have about GMO foods and provide consistent information to consumers about "non-GMO," "GMO," and "natural" food labels. The legislative principles set forth in H.R. 1599 are supported by a farm-to-fork coalition ([www.cfsaf.org](http://www.cfsaf.org)) of nearly 40 organizations representing all segments of the U.S. food value chain.

## CALIFORNIA

### VALUE AND SHARE OF CROP THAT IS GMO<sup>1</sup>

**\$789**  
Million



Cotton

**77%**

**\$184**  
Million



Corn

**93%**

## WE SUPPORT CONSUMERS' RIGHT-TO-KNOW

Consumers' right-to-know should be respected and not jeopardized or weakened by mandatory labeling requirements that can potentially mislead purchasers by suggesting some products are healthier or safer than others. If consumers are interested in avoiding GMOs, voluntary labels are already present in the marketplace to provide this choice. Voluntary labels that identify organic food or "non GMO" food, for example, provide meaningful information without the negative consequences of adopting public policy meant to advantage one agricultural sector over another.

## GMOs WORLDWIDE

In 2014, 28 countries grew genetically modified seeds. This resulted in 448 million acres of biotech crops being grown, up 15 million acres from 2013.<sup>2</sup>

## SAFETY OF GMOs

"GMO foods have a long, safe track record (17 years in the marketplace). From their introduction in 1996 until now, the World Health Organization, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the National Academies of Science, the American Medical Association and dozens of regulatory agencies around the world, including the European Food Safety Authority, have determined that food derived from genetically engineered ingredients is as safe and nutritious as food derived from other production methods, such as conventional or organic."<sup>3</sup>



[fb.org/biotech](http://fb.org/biotech)

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We understand consumers have questions.

[gmoanswers.com](http://gmoanswers.com)

[1] USDA ERS Cash Receipts by commodity rank and share of U.S. total. 2012. Retrieved from, [www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-income-and-wealth-statistics/cash-receipts-by-commodity.aspx](http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-income-and-wealth-statistics/cash-receipts-by-commodity.aspx)

[2] Global GMO plantings hit a record in 2014, led by US. (2015). Retrieved from, <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2015/02/28/world-biotech-acreage/22457363/>.

[3] GMO Answers. (2015). Retrieved from, <http://gmoanswers.com/ask/how-can-you-be-sure-gmo-foods-wont-affect-human-health-long-term>.

\*GMO Answers was created to answer consumers' questions about GMOs and biotechnology in agriculture. GMO Answers does not take positions on or endorse state or federal legislation.