

Some people think that genetically modified crops are a positive development. Others, however, argue that they are potentially dangerous. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

It is believed that GM crops can be the answer to perhaps the fastest-growing need of modern humans, hunger. Controversy, however, abounds over the use of such products as they are said to carry risks to public health, which seems to be the result of unfamiliarity and fear of the unknown.

It is human nature to resist ~~the~~ change and ~~to~~ be afraid of novel unknowns. GM foods might be a new-coined terminology, which is the result of genetic engineering, but certainly is precedent as traditional crossbreeding ~~was~~ has been practiced since centuries ago. The growth of GMOs can resolve many of our current problems. Lack of agricultural land, climate change, and ever-growing population throughout the world have overwhelmed humankind with the need to access a food supply, which was once taken for granted. Furthermore, in spite of the widespread concerns over the potential dangers of using GM foods, they have proved to be of great help because their genes can be altered in favor of the needs of their consumers. Improvements in photosynthesis and nutrition, as well as resistance to plant diseases, are only a few examples of this engineering process. These give GM crops a distinct advantage over their non-G.M counterparts.

The opponents of GM foods are mainly concerned ed about the disastrous consequences that they may have in the long term. They are said to be dangerous to human health when consumed for long. From minor ailments to serious, chronic diseases such as cancer are believed to stem from GMO crops although almost none has been yet proven. The real concern, however, seems to be the inability of scientists and nutritionists to strongly deny any of those allegations. Moreover, GM crops may cause contamination in soil and other neighboring agricultural products; though this too is still under examination.

To conclude, the known, proven benefits of GM crops can clearly outweigh the unknown, ostensible disadvantages since it is a viable solution to problems brought about by an exponential increase in the world population.