



AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

Scientific evidence indicates that the consumption of Genetically Modified (GMO) foods (a.k.a those developed using biotechnology) does not pose a risk to human health.

Currently, peanut varieties modified through biotechnology are not available commercially in the United States. However, the industry has mapped the peanut genome to find needed traits within the peanut species. This genome mapping does not use genetic modification, but allows breeders to more quickly identify desirable traits in peanut plants and then use conventional breeding techniques to breed these traits into new seed varieties and make them accessible to the farmers.

Using the genome map, traits that offer protection against certain plant diseases have been identified and bred into new seed varieties, which has already improved yields dramatically. The peanut genome map is also helping breeders inventory traits that can improve peanut sustainability through control of additional plant diseases, drought tolerance, and enhanced nutritional benefits.

The U.S. peanut industry is committed to providing consumers with healthy, safe, food products.

Approved 3-15-18. For further information, please contact the American Peanut Council office in Alexandria, Va. at: Tel: 703-838-9500; email: info@peanutsusa.com.