

Meagan Walters

From: Mary McDonald <maryroygmcd@gmail.com>
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To: District Plan Review
Subject: Review of Regulations on GE and GMOs

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Attention Kaipara District Council.

Submission on the precautionary and prohibitive regulations on GE and GMOs.

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Trade Competition. I could not gain an advantage in trade competition from this submission.

Hearing : I do not wish to be heard on my submission.

Signed: Mary R.G. McDonald.

Date: 27 June , 2025.

It is important to retain the present regulations on GE and GMOs .

The present regulations were developed over a long period in response to:

- * the economic and environmental risks that were possible in this field,
- *to protect the growing numbers of farmers who were adapting to climate change and employing natural methods to improve livestock, horticulture , and fruit growing and putting billions of dollars into the economy
- * to protect our GE FREE Export market selling advantages
- * the reckless and unscientific behaviour and abuses exhibited by previous attempts at carrying out GE experiments in the environment (Tree tomatoes -failure to clean up a failed experiment, escape of GE Broccoli from the GE site , near escape of a GE grass, the inhumane animal experiments at Ruakura.)
- * the decision of the Environmental and then the High Court that regions have the right to protect their local agriculture, economy , community and environment from harmful experiments. These were carried out on behalf of , the people of Northland.

In addition to these points people need to consider that the changes proposed by government in its Gene Technology Bill will open up NZ to overseas corporations and there will be no restraints on them at all. Profit is the only aim. Overseas corporations tend to come in , strip the goodies, pay locals low wages, give high paying jobs go to their own people , and the leave their detritus for NZ taxpayers to clean up . Profits for NZ have been pitiful and damage severe - Pyke River , oil projects , oversea forestry owners, overseas fishing boats, aluminium refinery

* GE plants have been bred to tolerate the weed killer Roundup . They cannot grow without Roundup to protect them from nature and natural enemies.. They lack the usual natural defences. And they

cannot be controlled by Roundup (Glyphosate). So , if a 'Mistake", particularly a grass, is produced , it cannot be controlled. It could become a superweed and cross-pollinate. The USA has such a grass. It is a grass bred to be suitable for putting greens on golf courses.

Multinational Chemical corporations like Monsanto/ Bayer would have a field day in an unprotected NZ. They change election results in USA states. They are being sued for the damage to health caused by glyphosate/ Roundup. They want to own the world's seeds.

There is no quick fix with GE and GMOs. The testing takes years . NZ has been having a grass put through trials in the USA for years now.

A GE grass for DAIRY cows would need many tests to be sure the milk and milk products produced from cows feeding on it was safe.

GE is not a quick fix.

A mistake could destroy the natural environment of NZ. Ecology is key to a healthy environment.

A bird in the hand - our precautionary regulations - could save us from destruction .

These are a short list of the reasons we need to retain our existing GE and GMO regulations.

Signed: Mary R G McDonald.

Date: 27 June , 2025.