

Europe's seed sector welcomes conclusion of NGT trilogue

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Europe's seed sector welcomes the positive conclusion of trilogue negotiations on New Genomic Techniques (NGTs), marking a decisive step towards a more innovative, competitive, and resilient European agriculture.

After months of negotiations, and following an urgent call for action from 26 European agri-food organisations, EU co-legislators finally reached agreement on a new Regulation for NGT plants. The agreement generally preserves the original intent of the Commission proposal to provide an enabling framework for the development and growing of conventional-like NGT plants, supporting farmers with better, more resilient crop varieties. This marks a crucial moment for Europe's ambitious policy agenda on food security, competitiveness and the bioeconomy. Garlich von Essen, Secretary General and CEO of Euroseeds, reacted: *"This agreement is a signal Europe's seed sector and farmers urgently needed. The EU is finally ready to enable its breeders and seed producers to use innovative tools that can help our farmers to face climate change, new pests and diseases, and increasing production challenges. That strengthens competitiveness across the entire agri-food chain."*

At the same time, numerous additional elements have been added to the text that require careful analysis of potential impact on practices, costs and administrative burden for both operators and authorities. Still, Euroseeds specifically acknowledges the significant efforts made by the Danish Council presidency throughout the negotiations, providing strong leadership, commitment and consistent focus on the file, which proved instrumental in securing the agreement. *"We are grateful for the hard work of the Danish Presidency as well as the EP's lead rapporteur Jessica Polfjärd. Their dedication has been crucial in ensuring the legislation remains mainly focused on enabling innovation. But there are now quite some further requirements and restrictions, and we still need to fully analyse the impact these may have."* Euroseeds now stands ready to continue to support regulators in the further implementation of the basic Regulation to help ensure that the full potential of NGTs can be realised in Europe.



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