

The Viability of GMOs

With the rapidly increasing population of the world, food shortages are constantly becoming more and more of an issue. Thousands people are perishing every year due to starvation. To combat this growing problem, researchers have begun creating genetically modified organisms, or GMOs. But do these Frankenstein's Monsters truly have the potential to aid mankind? The fact of the matter is that they do. GMOs are the world's only hope to save its booming population, and even with their risks, they allow mankind to make better use of its land.

"Its [Society's] population is rising by six million every month and will reach a total of around 9,000 million by 2050." In their article "Genetically Modified Crops Are the Key to Human Survival, Says UK's Chief Scientist," Robin McKie emphasizes the incredible rate of growth of the human population. With this many people, it will be impossible to grow enough natural crops to feed the world. GMOs, on the other hand, can be modified to produce a much higher yield. As already done to maize by Monsanto. While corn used to fit within the palm of a hand, it now stretches out around a foot in length. With improvements similar to this, the world's food crisis may eventually be put an end to.

While GMOs can potentially limit the world's food shortages, some believe they may pose a substantial threat to people and to the environment. "for example, to create insect resistant crops, scientists use a gene from soil bacteria called *Bacillus thuringiensis*." Laura Agadoni in her article "Is Genetically Modified Food Healthy?" implores, "...the BT gene triggers immune system responses based on research conducted in Italy..."