



What is the Framework for Responsible Use?

The Framework for Responsible Use of Gene Editing in Agriculture provides guidance to help organizations build trust in gene edited products in the marketplace. The Framework includes principles and operational commitments that organizations follow to assure consumers that they are using gene editing with consideration of the broader interests of agriculture, the food system and society in mind. The Framework was developed by the Coalition for Responsible Gene Editing in Agriculture, a multi-stakeholder coalition that included representatives from food companies, academia, civil society, technology developers, farmers and related associations. The Coalition is administered by the Center for Food Integrity.

Principles of the Framework

The Framework includes seven principles, and each principle includes a set of commitments an organization must meet to demonstrate it is operating within the Framework.

- **Transparency** - meaningful, accurate and clear information
- **Stakeholder engagement** - opportunities to provide input and feedback
- **Safety and quality** - ethical, legal and safe use of biological materials
- **Trade and market considerations** - managing products to facilitate the flow of goods in commerce
- **Social considerations** - social responsibility, environmental impact and animal welfare
- **Continuous improvement** - incorporate new technologies and best practices
- **Verification** - third-party confirmation of conformance with the Framework

Why should my organization get verified?

Consumers expect safe, healthy food produced in a socially responsible way. By operating in conformance with the Framework, developers and organizations are doing their part to build consumers' trust in gene editing technology. The Framework includes third-party verification for organizations to show they are using gene editing in conformance with the seven principles and operational commitments.

For more information, visit geneediting.foodintegrity.org.

The Coalition for Responsible Use of Gene Editing in Agriculture is administered by The Center for Food Integrity.



How can my organization get verified?

1 Become a member of the Coalition

Choose from three membership levels:

- **FUNDER** - \$25,000 annual fee, includes representation on the Coalition Operations Committee
- **SUPPORTER** - \$10,000-24,999 annual fee
- **FRAMEWORK PARTICIPANT** - \$1,000 annual fee and commitment to pursue verification. Participant pays verification fee.

Contact the Center for Food Integrity at geneediting@foodintegrity.org to find out which level of engagement is right for your organization.

2 Formally endorse the Framework

Encourage your organization to publicly show its support for the Framework and Responsible Use Guidelines. Endorsers will be recognized in the Coalition's communications and marketing materials.

3 Achieve verification that your organization is operating in conformance with the Framework

The Coalition's Framework Participants gain access to a variety of tools to guide and support their organizations through the verification process. Framework Participants start with a new member training webinar and then complete a self-evaluation checklist to determine their organization's readiness. Then an independent verifier will confirm the organization is operating in conformance with the principles, commitments and management practices outlined in the Framework.

Participants should complete the Verification of Conformance with the Framework within 12 months of joining the Coalition. Verified organizations will be recognized on the Coalition's website and can promote their Certificate of Conformance with the Framework in their communications and marketing materials.

FRAMEWORK ENDORSERS

- Benson Hill
- BIO
- Cargill Inc.
- Corteva
- Costco Wholesale
- FMI – The Food Industry Association
- Genus PLC
- PepsiCo
- Tropic Biosciences

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