

PRESS RELEASE

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Plant ETP welcomes the trilogue agreement on New Genomic Techniques (NGTs) as an advance for Europe's plant research and innovation ecosystem

Plants for the Future European Technology Platform (Plant ETP) celebrates the positive conclusion of trilogue negotiations on the legislative framework for plants obtained by NGTs. This agreement marks a decisive step towards creating an innovation-friendly environment that will enlarge the breeding toolbox and enable the use of advanced precision breeding methods in Europe, strengthen Europe's scientific leadership, and accelerate progress towards resilient and sustainable agri-food systems.

For over a decade, European researchers and breeders have been calling for a proportionate and science-based regulatory approach to NGTs. Today's agreement is a step in that direction, which will enable the use of cutting-edge tools and will help to deliver crop varieties adapted to climate change, resource efficiency, and biodiversity protection. Beyond benefits for farmers and society, this milestone is an important one for the plant research and innovation ecosystem in Europe, as a fit for purpose NGT legislation will advance collaboration between academia, industry, and farmers to translate scientific excellence into practical solutions.

"This agreement is not only about competitiveness and sustainability, but also about giving European plant science the conditions it needs to thrive" stated German Vighi, Executive Manager of Plant ETP. "By enabling innovation, we can accelerate research, attract investment, and ensure that Europe remains at the forefront of plant breeding technologies."

While awaiting the official text to assess the full impact of the agreement, Plant ETP recognizes the commitment and hard work of the European Commission, Member States and Members of the European Parliament who played a key role in achieving this result under the distinguished leadership of the Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Plant ETP is committed to collaborating with EU institutions and stakeholders on the next legislative steps and ensuring the regulation is implemented effectively, so that plant research and innovation can continue to drive Europe's competitiveness and sustainability.

Plants for the Future ETP (Plant ETP) is a multi-stakeholder European Technology Platform representing the plant sector, from the seed and breeding sector, the farming community and academia. Plant ETP brings stakeholders from the plant sector together to consider the challenges and opportunities of agricultural value chains in a holistic way, while developing a vision for future systems spanning food, feed, and biobased raw materials. In this way, Plant ETP provides strategic direction, recommendations of essential research and innovation, and science-based advice for the benefit of policymakers, research funding providers, practitioners, and innovators throughout agricultural value chains.