



PRESS RELEASE

SCIENCE-POLICY SYMPOSIUM: New Genomic Techniques (NGTs) in Plants and Microalgae. What do they mean for agriculture, aquaculture, food security and the bioeconomy?



Event Background

The EU-funded **GeneBEcon** project and the **Cyprus University of Technology** are organizing the Science–Policy Symposium about New Genomic Techniques in Plants and Microalgae and their impact on agriculture, aquaculture, food security and bioeconomy. The Symposium will be held at the **Municipal Cultural Centre Panos Solomonides**, Limassol, Cyprus on **October 6th**, 2023, from 09:00 – 14:00. The Symposium will be held under the auspices of **Cyprus' Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment**.

The Symposium is addressed to governmental officials and policy makers from Cyprus, EU and neighboring countries, food industry representatives, agriculture and aquaculture representatives, researchers, academics and students.

Cyprus has introduced several initiatives to boost its agriculture and NGTs could be one of them, since the sector of potato agriculture is one of the most important (40% of raw agricultural products) and high on exports to the EU.



The event will:

- **Illustrate how NGTs can contribute to food security and safety and to achieving the goals of the **European Green Deal**, **Farm-to-Fork** Strategy, and **Circular Bioeconomy**.**
- **Inform** policy makers, researchers, students and agri–food stakeholders about NGT–derived plants' potential to support pressing agriculture and aquaculture issues.
- **Demonstrate regulatory options** and their respective socio–economic impacts and illustrate how NGTs can enable Europe to achieve its goals.
- **Highlight key developments** in NGTs and their applications in improving plant disease resistance and plant product quality to eliminate chemical industrial processing.
- **Showcase **GeneBEcon** research** that is directly relevant to Cyprus' potato and poultry sector i.e., present the case studies of the virus–resistant potato with a more desirable starch profile, enabling less pesticide use during potato production and chemical–free extraction for the food industry, and microalgae that can be used to produce high–value compounds as well as poultry feed additive to improve gut health.



You can register to attend the Symposium [here](#).

To download the event agenda, click [here](#).

All speeches and presentations will be in English.



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