

Consensus statement from US Regulatory Policy workshop: Genome-Edited Microbial Products for Agricultural use

1. We believe that genome-edited microbes are needed for a sustainable, productive agricultural system in view of a changing climate that is leading to increased pest pressures and other crop management challenges.
2. We learned that gaining consumer acceptance and trust is important in the development and regulation of genome-edited microbial products.
3. Long term, we suggest developing a predictable regulatory path specific for genome-edited microbes, ultimately developing risk-proportionate regulation that allows for a tiered product development and commercialization approach.
4. In the interim, we further suggest scheduling cross-stakeholder conversations that encompass uniform methods of consensus on risks in order to help agencies respond to opportunities such as the recent Executive Order on the Bioeconomy and development of the 2023 Farm Bill.
5. Going forward, we will leverage the National Academy of Sciences to help in the development and formalization of collating and collecting unbiased, third party baseline data related to microbial risk.