

# Authorisation of genetically modified sugar beet KWS20-1

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## EU authorises genetically modified sugar beet KWS20-1

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) [2026/457](#) of 27 February 2026 authorising the placing on the market of food, food ingredients and feed produced from genetically modified sugar beet KWS20-1 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

### Update

The European Union (EU) has authorised KWS20-1 as genetically modified (GM) sugar beet. This authorisation concerns its use in food, food ingredients, and feed.

### Impacted products

Sugar beet, derived food and feed products

### What is changing?

The EU has authorised the sale of GM sugar beet KWS20-1. This authorisation concerns its use in food, food ingredients, and feed. On labels of products containing this sugar beet, the name of the organism should be 'sugar beet'

### Why?

Following a review, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has concluded that sugar beet KWS20-1 does not pose any environmental, safety or nutritional concerns compared to the non-genetically modified sugar beet reference varieties tested ([EFSA 2025](#)).

### Timeline

This authorisation is valid for a period of 10 years (until March 2036).

## What are the major implications for exporting countries?

Suppliers of food or feed containing or consisting of this GM sugar beet have long-term legal security for the export of these products to the EU market.

## Background

A list of all authorised GM products can be found on the EU's [GMO register](#).

The authorisation of GM crops normally requires sufficient support from EU Member States (a [qualified majority](#)) to authorise or reject applications. In recent years, there has generally been insufficient support for a decision to either authorise or reject applications. In such cases, as here, the European Commission is permitted to authorise these products if EFSA has given a positive risk assessment.

The authorisation holder of KWS20-1 is Bayer CropScience LLC.

## Resources

EFSA (2025) [Assessment of genetically modified sugar beet KWS20-1 \(application GMFF-2023-14732\)](#). EFSA Journal, 23(5): e9381.

Regulation (EC) No [1829/2003](#) on genetically modified food and feed

Regulation (EC) No [1830/2003](#) concerning the traceability and labelling of genetically modified organisms and the traceability of food and feed products produced from genetically modified organisms

## Sources

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) [2026/457](#) authorising the placing on the market of food, food ingredients and feed produced from genetically modified sugar beet KWS20-1

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