Example

GMO

First, Last Name

Mrs. Smith- 8th

Date Due

GMOs are foods that is an organism or microorganism whose genetic material has been altered by means of genetic engineering. (Diaz, 2018). Many foods are genetically modified in one way or another. Many people are against GMOs and many people just don't get what GMOs are all about. After reading the history, pros, and cons of GMOs, maybe you can pick you stance on it all.

GMOs are genetically modified organisms. They splice genetic material from one organism to another. GMOs have been around for thousands of years. (Lecia, 2015). "Genetically modified foods were first approved for human consumption in the U.S. in 1994." (Diaz, 2018). "More than 80 percent of the corn, soybeans, cotton, and sugar beets grown in the U.S. are genetically engineered." (Young, 2012). GMOs also get called GE which stands for genetically engineered. In the late 1990s the European Union talked about having strict GMO laws. (Diaz, 2018). People have been altering food and genes for a long time. Farmers have also tried to make their plants resistant to diseases and pests. "Plants such as strawberries, wheat, cabbage, corn, and almost all the rest of our crops." The ancestors of these plants weren't like the strawberries and other crops we have today. (Lecia, 2015). The ancestors of these strawberry plants and the other crops are now way different than they were.

Since farmers must do less tilling there is less of a runoff, and that keeps toxins out of our water supply. Now when it rains toxins will not be going into our soil making it dangerous for us. We will have more gas because we will not have as many tractors tilling the fields. This means that we could reduce the use of gas which can lead to healthier environments and less pollution. "Genetically engineered crops could save 306 million gallons of fuel a year." (Young, 2012). This will lead to less pollution. Making our world a cleaner and better place to live. Now some crops do not need no-till farming that limits erosion. When the ground erodes it makes the

ground get turned up and it will then erode faster. This is from the constant movement of the ground. Now farmers have made their pesticide use go down by 50-80 percent. (Diaz, 2018). Since they have done this now it is not as bad as having a pesticide sitting on our foods. The farmers have seen growth in their income go up by 36 percent. (Diaz, 2018). They have made even more money because they are not using as much of the pesticide as they have in the past.

First off, farmers were forced to spray pesticides on their crops. This is not fair to the farmers and the people that are going to buy the products. Not only are they adding unnecessary toxins and chemicals to foods, the farmers don't really get a say if they wanted to use pesticides. A bad thing is that some GMO plants were made resisted to a specific chemical. Since some were made resisted that makes the farmers add even more chemicals to the plants to make sure the bugs stay off them. As a result, "the use of Roundup has increased." (Diaz, 2018). The more Roundup used makes the plants have even more toxins and chemicals. Another downside of GMOs is when the farmer sprays the pesticide on the plant, the bugs they are killing can be taking away from another animal's food source and this could eventually lead to extinction. If they kill a little bug off a plant an animal that normally eats that bug might not get the food, it needs which then leads to the animal dying. Some GMO foods have antibiotics built in to them to make them immune to diseases and viruses. So, when you get sick, your body is already immune to the antibiotic drugs given by a doctor. Now when you go to the doctor when you are sick, the medicine that they a give you will not work because your body will already be immune to the antibiotics. Now "some GMO foods are modified using bacteria and viruses, there is a fear that we will see the emergence of new diseases." (Ian, 2018). If new diseases break out and people start to get them, then doctors won't know what to do and they won't have a cure. People could die. Things could get added to the plant and then we would be putting these things into our body that could harm us. Finally, some allergic reactions may occur because things get added to the original plant making it become an allergen to some people. So, after saying that, if someone was not allergic to a food, and something they are allergic to mixes in that can create allergic reactions.

I feel that GMOs are an unhealthy added part to our foods. If we can get sick from just eating or having Roundup digested how can we not get sick from eating our pesticide sprayed food? I think that we don't need to have extra sprays on our food, it takes away its natural ingredients. To help with this problem you could buy organic foods, even though it costs more money. You could also help local farms find a way to keep bugs off their crops. Using green houses could prevent the amount of pests that go on our food.

Saker (1)



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