**New genomic techniques (NGTs)**

**Main messages**

- The Commission’s legislative proposal on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques (NGT) is designed to maintain high safety standards, support breeders and farmers, contribute to sustainability objectives and deliver benefits to consumers. As part of the wider Green Deal agenda, it is expected to provide new tools to farmers, who are suffering directly from the impacts of climate change and need to deliver a substantial shift to new and more resilient and sustainable ways of producing our food while remaining competitive.

- Plants produced by new genomic techniques may be equivalent to conventional plants and have the same safety profile, when the genetic changes made can also occur in nature or through conventional breeding. In other cases, they may contain genetic changes that are difficult to obtain by conventional breeding methods.

- Therefore, the proposal establishes two distinct regimes for NGT plants, based on their different characteristics and risk profiles, ensuring appropriate regulatory oversight.

- Transparency is ensured through seed labelling, a public database, and variety catalogues regarding NGT plants that could occur naturally or be obtained by conventional breeding. For other NGT plants and products, labelling requirements throughout the value chain as GMOs remain.

- Robust monitoring of economic, environmental, and social impacts of NGT products on the EU market, organic farming, and consumer acceptance will be implemented.

- In preparation of the proposal, we have taken into account a very wide range of views from interested parties, both in support of a more enabling framework for NGTs as well as expressing concerns about potential negative impacts of these techniques. We believe that the proposal reflects a careful balance in this regard. Safety aspects are solidly underpinned by scientific evidence assessed by EFSA and the interests of different forms of agricultural and food production have been fully taken into account.