

**Question for written answer E-000071/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Martin Häusling (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Category 1 new genomic techniques

According to the Commission proposal on plants derived from new genomic techniques (NGTs), NGT plants that could also occur naturally or be produced by conventional breeding techniques and their progeny obtained by conventional breeding techniques ('category 1 NGT plants') should be treated as plants that have occurred naturally or have been produced by conventional breeding techniques, given that they are equivalent and that their risks are comparable'. In Annex I, the proposal sets out criteria to establish this equivalence. The German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation estimated that, as a result, around 94 % of NGT plants would be classified as NGT1 and would thus receive market approval without risk assessment or monitoring¹. Current trilogue discussions have changed the classification criteria, which would now allow 20 genetic changes per monoploid genome.

Can the Commission provide an estimate, based on the work of the Joint Research Centre, of what percentage of NGT plants would be classified as NGT1 based on the changed classification criteria?

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¹ Bohle F, Schneider R, Mundorf J, Zühl L, Simon S and Engelhard M (2024) *Where does the EU-path on new genomic techniques lead us?* Front. Genome Ed. 6:1377117. doi: 10.3389/fgeed.2024.1377117.