



UNFI's Position on GMO Labeling

UNFI unequivocally supports the full disclosure of ingredients to consumers, believing they have a right to know whether products contain GMOs (genetically modified organisms). We feel that the cultivation of GMOs and their presence in our food supply pose a threat to human, animal, and environmental health, and therefore, are fundamentally contrary to our vision of a sustainable future. We embrace certified organic as the gold standard of non-GMO food production.

UNFI strongly supports efforts that could provide consumers with complete information about the food they eat. There have been numerous ballot initiatives at the state level designed to address the labeling of GMO food products. While our position is to refrain from commenting on the details of individual state efforts, we view initiatives which move the issue of GMOs into the consciousness of more consumers as a positive development.

Our Activities

UNFI is a longtime industry leader in the promotion of organics, the fight against GMO proliferation, and of initiatives that raise standards of food quality and integrity.

We believe it is our responsibility to participate, working toward a future that is maintained with organic and sustainable practices. As such, our activities related to GMO labeling include:

- We have been a key supporter of the Non-GMO Project since its inception. In addition, we provide meaningful, ongoing support, guidance and incentives to our suppliers to verify and label their products through the Non-GMO Project.
- We are a key supporter of the Just Label It! campaign. With Just Label It!, we have urged the Obama administration to exercise executive power and require mandatory GMO labeling.
- We actively lobby our elected representatives on Capitol Hill for their support of the Genetically Engineered Food Right-to-Know Act (Senator Boxer and Congressman DeFazio).
- We supported state ballot initiatives in California, Washington, Vermont, Oregon and Colorado with donations and activism.
- We urge the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish a seed purity standard and develop policies that assign the cost of contamination to the developers of GMO technology.