

The History of Genetic Modification in CROPS

10,000
YEARS
AGO



Humans begin crop domestication using selective breeding.

LATE
1800s



Farmers and scientists begin cross-breeding plants between species.

1940s
AND
1950s



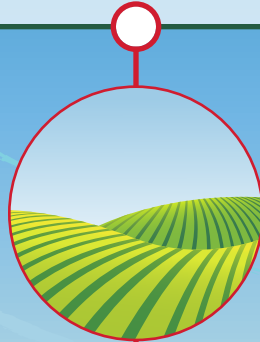
Breeders and researchers seek out additional means to introduce genetic variation into the gene pool of plants.

1980s



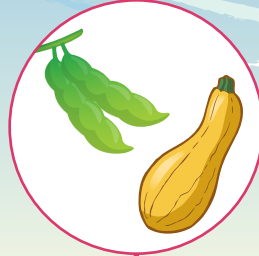
Researchers learn to copy a gene for a desired trait from one plant or organism and use it in another plant. The result is a GMO (genetically modified organism).

1990s



The first GMOs in agriculture are introduced to the marketplace.

1995



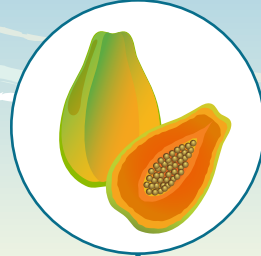
GM squash and soybeans become commercially available in the U.S.

1996



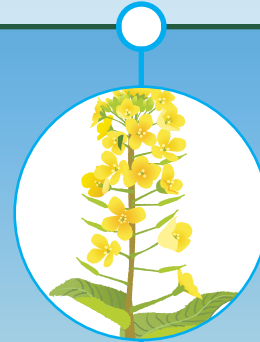
GM cotton and corn become commercially available in the U.S.

1997



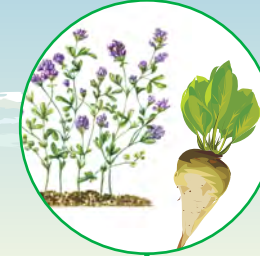
GM papaya becomes commercially available in the U.S.

1999



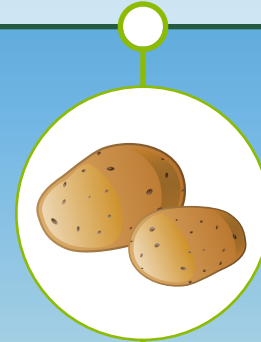
GM canola becomes commercially available in the U.S.

2006



GM alfalfa and sugar beets become commercially available in the U.S.

2016



GM potatoes become commercially available in the U.S.

2017



GM apples become commercially available in the U.S.