

G+FLAS Life Sciences licenses DNA-free genome editing technologies

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Before the emergence of CRISPR genome editing technology, most genetically-engineered crops were generated by recombinant DNA-mediated GMO technology that heavily depends on a time-consuming process to segregate out the inserted DNA by genetic recombination. Conventional GMO technologies would take 10 years and cost approximately \$100 million to obtain the deregulated status.

The founder and CEO of G+FLAS Life Sciences, Sunghwa Choe, Ph.D., said "Licensing the DNA-free genome editing technology should create synergy with our CRISPR PLUSTM gene editing platform. With the two cutting-edge technologies, G+FLAS will expedite company's trait development programs to commercialize higher-yield and more nutritious crop plants in relatively shorter time."

According to 2017 Global Seed Market Database, the global crop seed market size is anticipated to reach 118.5 billion dollars by 2022, with an average of 11.4% annual growth. Consumer needs on safer and nutrient-rich foods are also expected to increase. G+FLAS Life Sciences is currently developing vegetable seeds with improved nutrients, such as Vitamin D-containing tomato and lettuce. Furthermore, G+FLAS will expand pipelines to plant-made pharmaceuticals including antibody drugs, recombinant vaccines, and dietary supplements using the glyco-engineered plants.