

# Monsanto abandons GM crops in Europe

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American agribusiness firm Monsanto will stop seeking approval for genetically modified (GM) crops in Europe. All of the company's pending applications, excluding MON810 insect-resistant maize, will be abandoned.

Rather, it will concentrate on creating biotech crops in North America and new crop varieties in the EU by conventional breeding. Monsanto will aim to acquire GM crop imports approved in Europe. Despite the public and political opposition, the starch-rich non-food Amflora potato of BASF has survived the negotiation of the approvals process. BASF also transferred its plant research headquarters to the US and suspended its GM crop development in Europe in 2012.

*SOURCE Chemistry World*