Genetically Engineered Crops

Science and technologies are so advanced these days that it allows scientist to take a certain gene from any plants and animals and alter it to other plant or animals to get a desired trait. Genetic Engineering makes it possible to move genes from plants to animals and vice versa. Similarly, Genetically Engineered Crops are the type of plants whose DNA has been modified using genetical engineering methods.

The main purpose of Genetically Engineered (GE) crops is to create a new trait to the plant which doesn’t occur naturally in the species. GE crops potentially have more nutrition, is tastier and grows faster than the normal crops. The use of pesticides and insecticides in the GE plants is lower which leads in the increment of supply of food with reduced cost. Moreover, GE crops can also be used to make a medicinal food which could be used in as a vaccine. According to the 2014 meta-analysis, genetically modified technology had reduced 37% of the usage of chemical pesticides, increased the quantity of crops by 22% and increased farmers profit by 68%.

With every blessing, comes a burden likewise there are dark aspects of genetically engineered crops which are unethical to the society and the human lives. The main concerns raised for GE crops are it has potential effects on human health; potential damage to the environment; unexpected genetic changes in plants; expensive food. Though, we have many advantages of using GE crops I believe we don’t even need GE crops to feed the world. It is unethical for the society and environment as it is misuse of the technologies. The main question is “Just because we can, does it mean we should?”

I always wanted to study computer and biology at once so being a Computer Science student, I would like to pursue my career in Biotechnology field which made me choose this topic. I can say that this topic is appealing to me and I am really looking forward to research about it.