

**Name: Zoe Caron**

**Username: zoe.caron**

**Email: [zoe.caron@mymail.champlain.edu](mailto:zoe.caron@mymail.champlain.edu)**

**School: Champlain College**



**Were they surprised by the video content? Film some of their responses and take pictures.**

I think most of us were surprised by the video content, because non-GMO conversations seem to be few and far between. Genetic engineering is so prevalent, yet rarely discussed, because not much is actually known about it. Everyday, we eat food that contains GMOs, yet labelling isn't required so we don't usually know. There needs to be more transparency in terms of what foods are genetically modified, and what the potential hazards of consumption are.

We are also all disappointed by how much pesticides go in to producing our food. It's unfortunate that our agricultural system is so dependent on chemicals to get a higher yield. Mutating plant genes seems like a risky venture, especially since we do not yet know the consequences. The concept of "patenting nature" is a strange idea, and we're all apprehensive of how this may play out in the future.



**Link to video response**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17DJaxmg8OU1zIWDV2olQqMsXnxAwhwCb/view?usp=sharing>

Ask each guest to talk about the snack they brought, as everyone tastes it. Ask your guests to talk about why they chose it, where they bought it, and whether they'd buy it again. Make sure to take a picture of all the non-GMO snacks before they are devoured.



Mt. Olive Organic Kosher Dill Spears (Maggie): Maggie bought the pickles at Hannaford. She chose this snack because she already buys this on a normal basis, and noticed that it was non-GMO when she tasked with finding something for our event.

Terra Sweets & Apples Chips (Zoe): I bought these chips at our local co-op, City Market. Many of the foods at City Market are organic and non-GMO, so it wasn't too difficult finding something for this event. I wanted to pick a product that was made with in-season produce, as well as something I hadn't tried before. I would definitely buy this again.

Progresso Organic Black Bean Soup (Justin): This was probably one of the more random choices, but Justin picked it because the labelling was clear and it was also certified organic. He said he had a bit of a difficult time finding foods that were clearly labelled non-GMO. He settled on this because it was one of the first things he found that fit the criteria. After trying it, he said he probably wouldn't buy this again, but would try different non-GMO soups from the brand. He bought this at the grocery store Market 32.

Green Mountain Gringo Tortilla Strips (Hans): Hans bought this product at Market 32. He picked it because it was set aside from the conventional brands, such as Tostitos. The grocery store was highlighting local products, and this one also happened to be non-GMO. He would definitely buy this again, especially considering there was almost no price difference when compared to other name brands.

Green Mountain Gringo Salsa (Lauren): Lauren also bought this salsa at Market 32 with Hans. It was in the same section as the chips, and was a perfect complement to them. Lauren's also bought this product in the past, and says it's one of her favorite salsas.

**Include a couple of quotes from friends about what they have learned and how they will act on this wisdom in the future.**

Lauren: “Before this I haven’t really thought about GMOs. I actually didn’t really know what they were in the first place. It’s weird that there isn’t more regulations when we don’t know the dangers of modifying the genes in our food. I’ll definitely look out for the labelling when I go shopping in the future.”

Justin: “GMOs seem really sketchy to me. I’m definitely wondering how much genetically modified food I’ve eaten in my life. Also if that will damage my health in the future. I don’t usually pick food based off of the labels, but maybe I’m going to pay more attention.”

Maggie: “I didn’t think there was anything wrong with GMOs but this helped me learn that they’re hurting our planet!”

**Together, come up with one actionable idea for raising awareness and/or promoting non-GMO on campus and share your idea.**

We think that the best place to raise awareness and promote non-GMO foods on campus would either be in the school store or dining hall. For the school store, we would suggest signage near the prices, like a guide to buying. These labels would sort the products in terms of organic, non-GMO, or local. This way, students would have a better understanding of what’s in the food they’re buying. The bookstore could also have weekly showcase items, and highlight a product that is non-GMO. In terms of the dining hall, labelling usually only goes as far as “dairy-free” or “peanut-free.” It would be useful to implement a program that does more to educate students about GMOs. This could include having a meal that is made with entirely non-GMO ingredients.

**Post a photo of the whole group and snacks to a social platform of your choice. Tag @NonGMOProject and @TurningGreenOrg and use the hashtags #nongmo and #PGC2018**





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**ecoreps** Thanks to those who joined us for our non-GMO party! Do you check the labels to make sure your food is non-GMO certified? Research when shop, your health depends on it! @turninggreenorg @nongmoproject #nongmo #pgc2018

     
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