

Appendix 3: Maniapoto Environmental Plan

This appendix reprints extracts relevant to GMOs from Ko Ta Maniapoto Mahere Taiao – Maniapoto Environmental Management Plan.¹

25.2.3 Issue: New organisms and genetically modified organisms

25.2.3.1 The term genetically modified organisms (GMOs) refers to new organisms created in a laboratory by the transfer of genes between different species. The use and application of new organisms and genetically modified organisms for medicines and food is currently on the increase. Maniapoto are concerned about the effects of GMOs on the mauri and whakapapa of indigenous species, the costs and benefits to Maniapoto and the risk to natural resources and the environment.

25.3.3.2 Maniapoto promote transparent information and processes on the development and use of GMOs and/or the introduction of new organisms. This includes considering the risks and threats, including outcomes and benefits and trade-offs between economic benefit and environmental integrity. Recent examples of PSA (Kiwifruit), varroa bee mite and oyster herpes virus highlight biological outbreaks that pose risks to businesses and communities. In many cases, such outbreaks are not through intentional introduction of organisms.

25.3.4 Objective: New or Genetically Modified Organisms

To adopt a precautionary approach to the introduction and use of new organisms and GMOs in recognition of Maniapoto tikanga and kawa

25.3.4.1 Policy

Applications for new organisms and GMOs must demonstrate that there are no unacceptable risks to humans, indigenous ecosystems, indigenous species or primary production.

Actions

- (a) Ensure resource users, resource managers, applicants and decision makers give effect to Maniapoto values and interests in any proposal to develop new or genetically modified organisms
- (b) Require relevant agencies engage and consult with Maniapoto to ensure that Maniapoto values and interests are explicitly considered in decision-making criteria
- (c) Require relevant agencies to demonstrate that the effects of new organisms, and GMOs, are negligible or minimised on taonga species, areas of significant indigenous vegetation, and on the ecosystems in which these species and areas of significance occur
- (d) New organisms and GMOs demonstrate no unanticipated effect, and no effect on non-target species, or a minimal effect that may be acceptable to Maniapoto, before new organisms and GMOs are introduced into the Maniapoto rohe.
- (e) Increase Maniapoto participation in decision-making on applications to introduce or develop a new and/or genetically modified organism.

¹ <https://www.maniapoto.iwi.nz/ko-ta-maniapoto-mahere-taiao-maniapoto-environmental-management-plan/> accessed October 2019]