

## What are precision bred organisms?

Precision bred organisms (PBOs) are plants or animals where the genetic makeup of the organism has been altered using techniques of modern biotechnology (such as gene editing) in a precise way.

This page is part of the [Regulated products application guidance](#).

Precision bred organisms (PBOs) are plants or animals where the genetic makeup of the organism has been altered using techniques of modern biotechnology (such as gene editing) in a precise way. To qualify as a PBO, the changes to the organism must be those that could have also been achieved through traditional breeding methods.

Precision breeding does not include organisms that contain DNA that isn't present in the non-modified organism or in sexually compatible species. These organisms remain classified as genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and regulated as such. You can find [guidance on applying for a food and feed marketing authorisation of a GMO](#) on our website.

Before a PBO can be used in food or feed and placed on the market in England, it must first be authorised.