



Western Sugar Cooperative
(Grower Owned)

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GMO Statement

Western Sugar processes genetically enhanced sugar beets (Roundup Ready® Sugar Beets) to produce refined sugar and related sugar products.

Western Sugar grower-owners have elected to farm using genetically enhanced sugar beets (a.k.a. GMO sugar beets). Using this advanced farming technology allows our growers to produce more sugar per acre using fewer, safer chemicals and fewer natural resources. This includes using less water all while protecting and promoting soil health. This technology has revolutionized sugar beet production, and the sugar remains unchanged. During sugar extraction and processing, all DNA and protein is removed from the pure crystalline sucrose. Therefore, sugar from sugar beets remains GMO-free, just as it was 100 years ago. Regardless of source or production method, all sucrose is the same, therefore there are no quality, health, nutrition, or safety difference between cane or beet sugar whether produced conventionally, using GMO technology, or farmed organically.

Under the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard (NBFDS), Western Sugar is not required to disclose the granulated sugar as well as brown sugar produced as “**Bioengineered Food (BE)**”. Per definition under the NBFDS, food that ‘does not contain genetic material’ is not considered as a bioengineered food, and therefore, no BE disclosure is required. The extensive refining process for sugar manufacturing removes any genetically modified DNA and/or proteins from genetically modified DNA from the finished product. Our product is validated through PCR tests with a negative result. This method complies with AMS’ National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard Guidance on Testing Methods related to 7 CFR 66.9(c)”. However, powdered sugar may be subject to disclosure based on remnant genetic material that may be present in the included corn starch.

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