



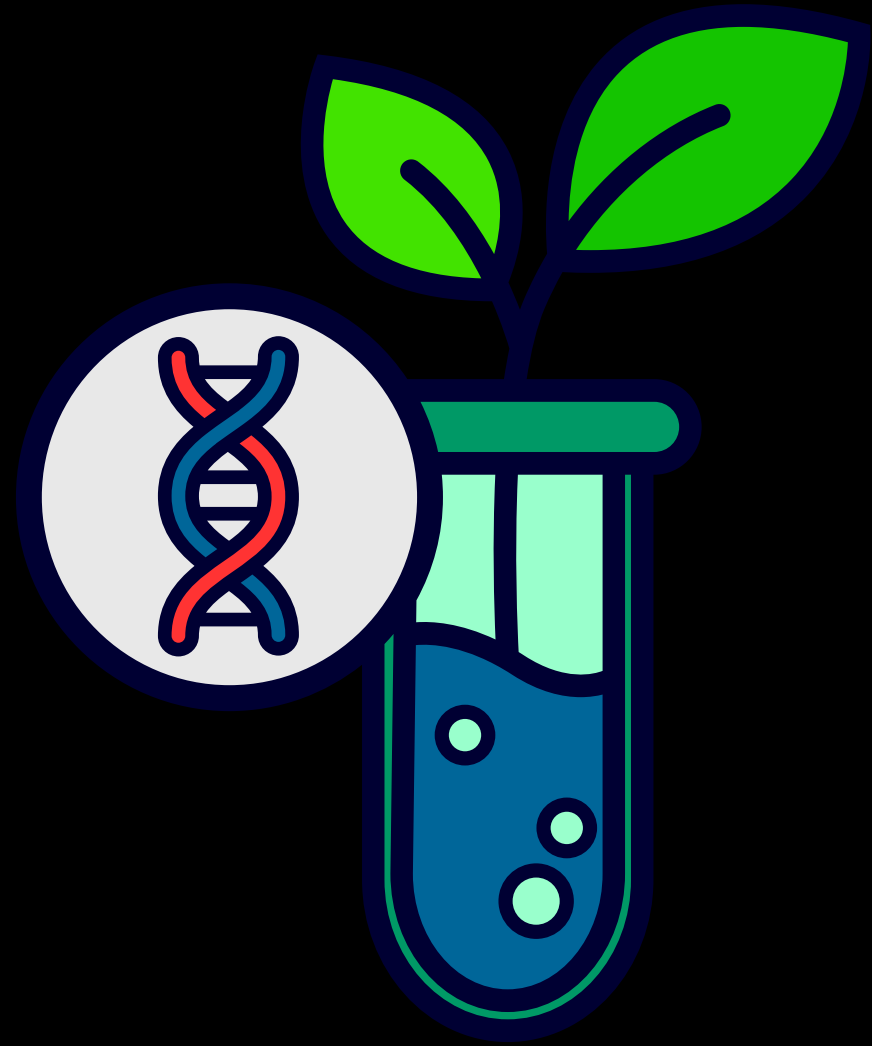
**Advancing Frontiers of Biotechnology:  
Exploring Gene Editing in Crops and Animals**

# **GENE EDITING IN CROPS**



**MARIBEL ZAPORTEZA**

**UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES  
LOS BAÑOS**



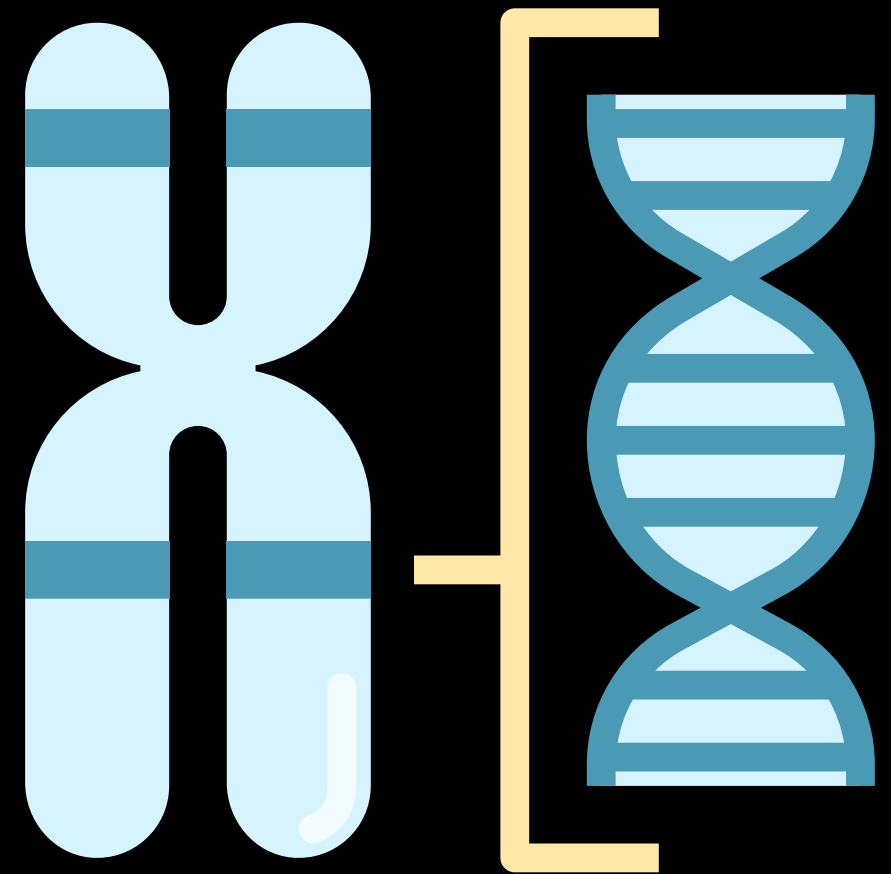
# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

GENE EDITING DEFINITION

CRISPR CAS 9 SYSTEM

GMO VS GED

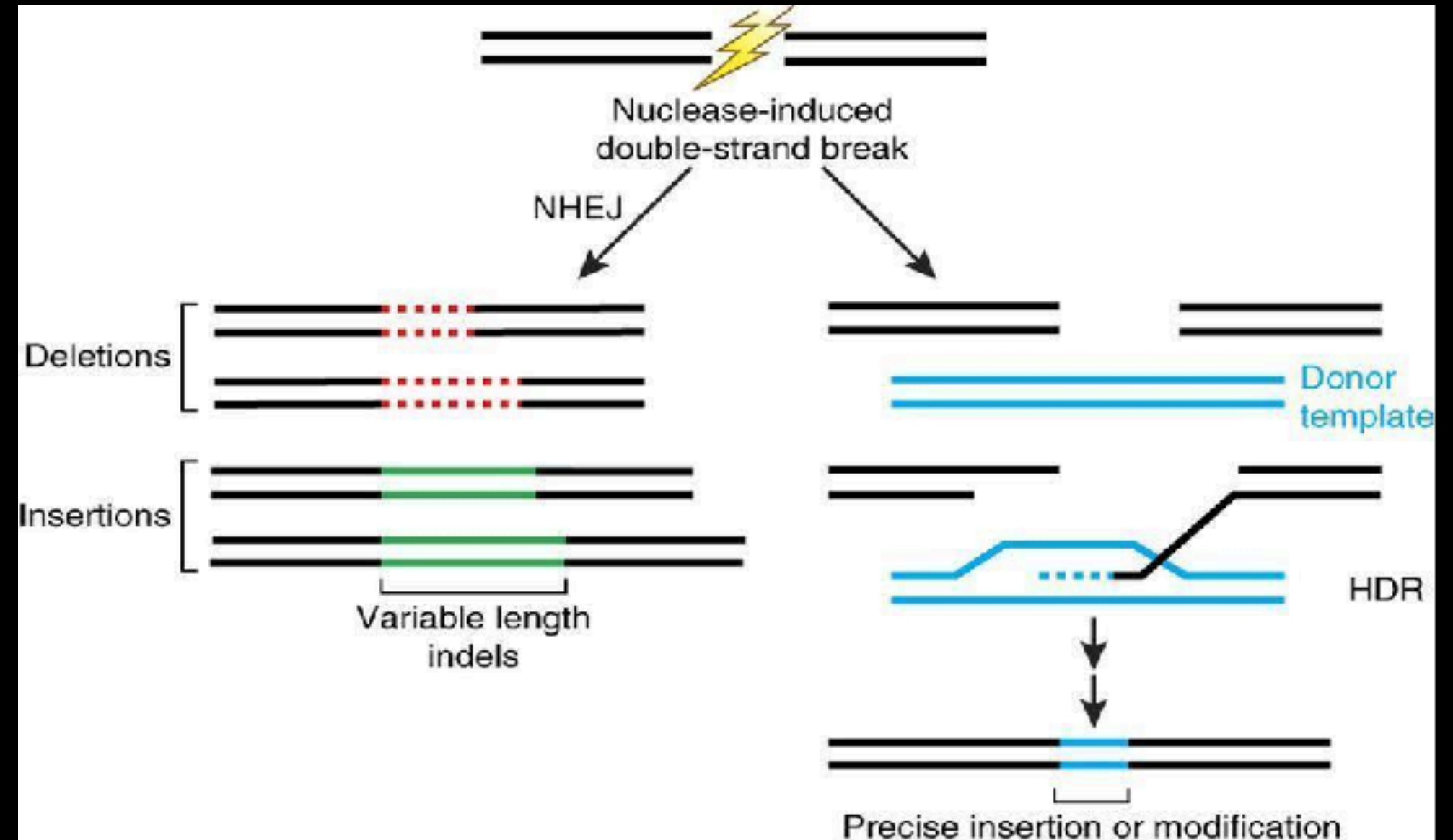
PRODUCTS OF GENE  
EDITING



# GENE/GENOME EDITING

Genetic mutation  
(gene disruption, gene  
insertion ) of a pre-  
determined genetic locus/  
region in a genome using  
site specific nucleases.

site directed mutagenesis



Sander and Jung 2014

# EDITING

1. The girl is smart.
2. That girl is smart.
3. She is smart.

Non-homologous end  
joining (NHEJ)

4. Anna is smart.
5. She is intelligent.

Homology-directed  
repair (HDR)

6. The girl is beautiful and smart.
7. The beautiful girl is smart.

1st GEN  
GMO

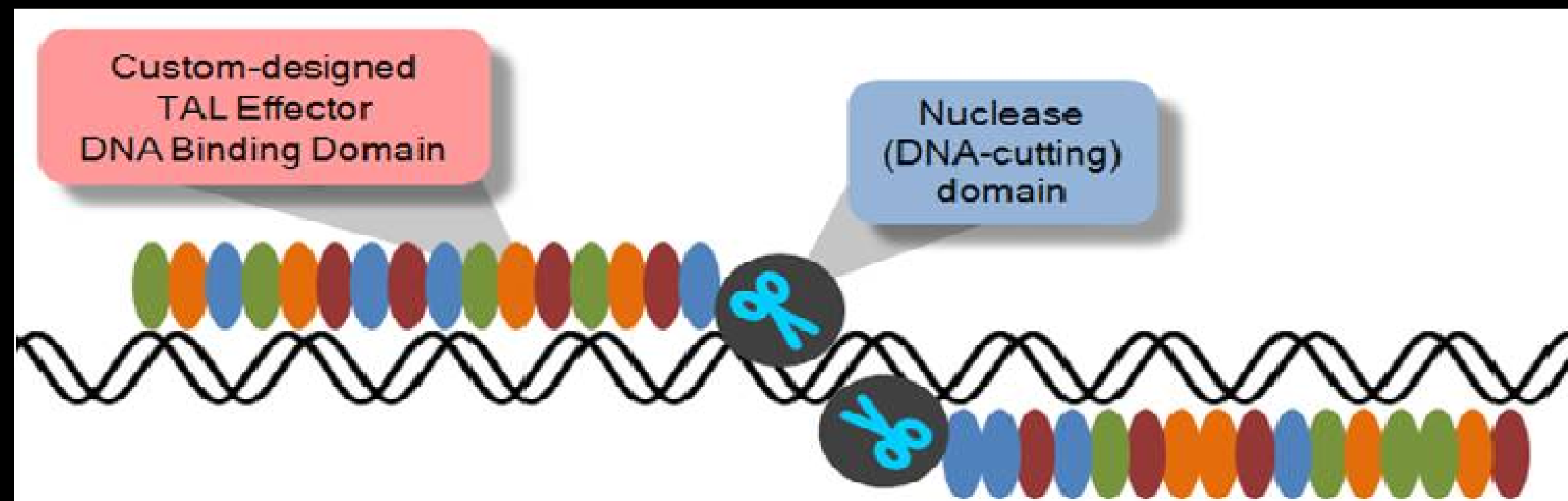


# Site-specific endonucleases (SSNs)

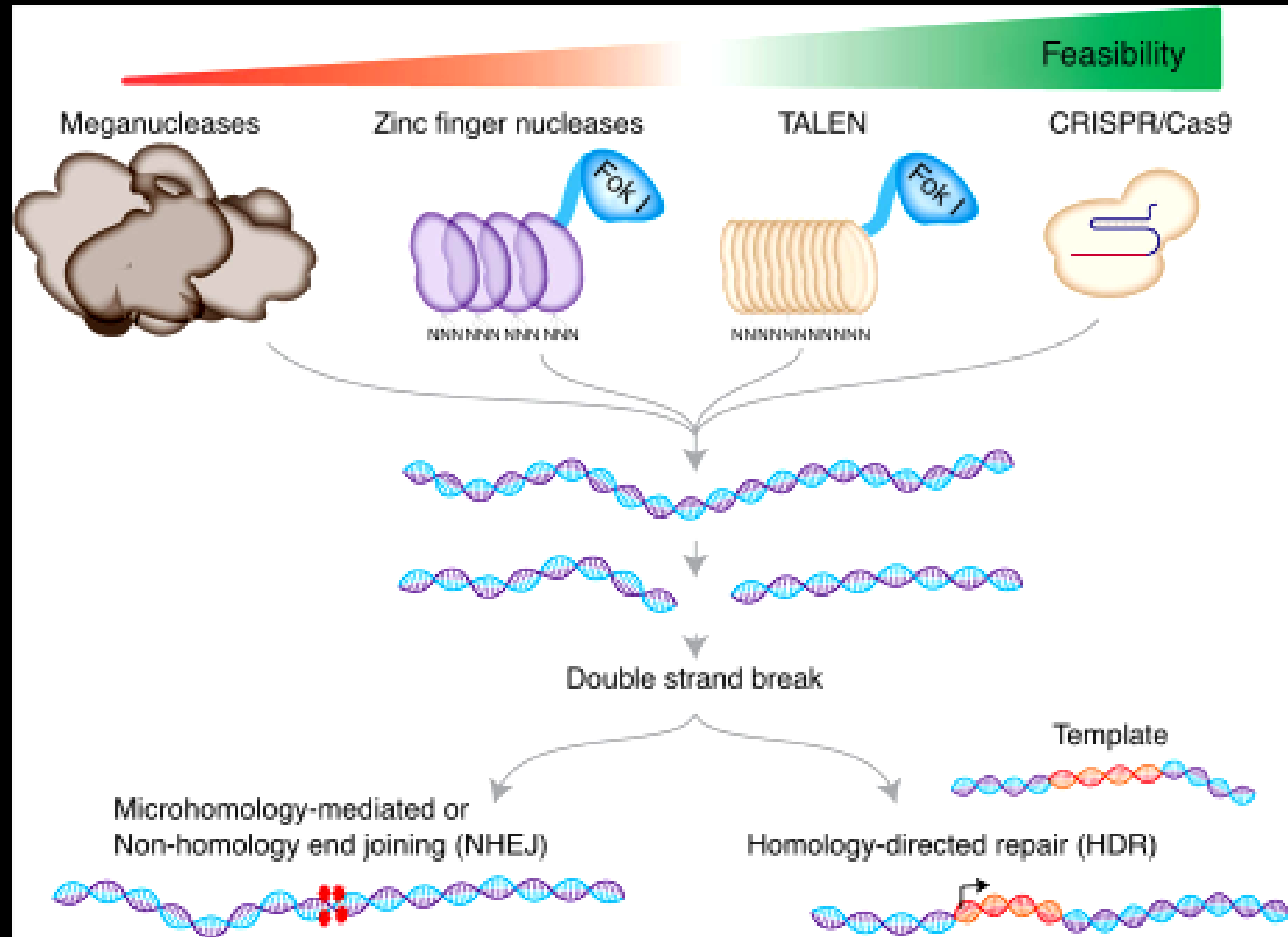
recognize unique sequences and specifically cleave DNA at unique sites within the genome;

“magic scissors”

Fusion of a binding domain and nuclease domain



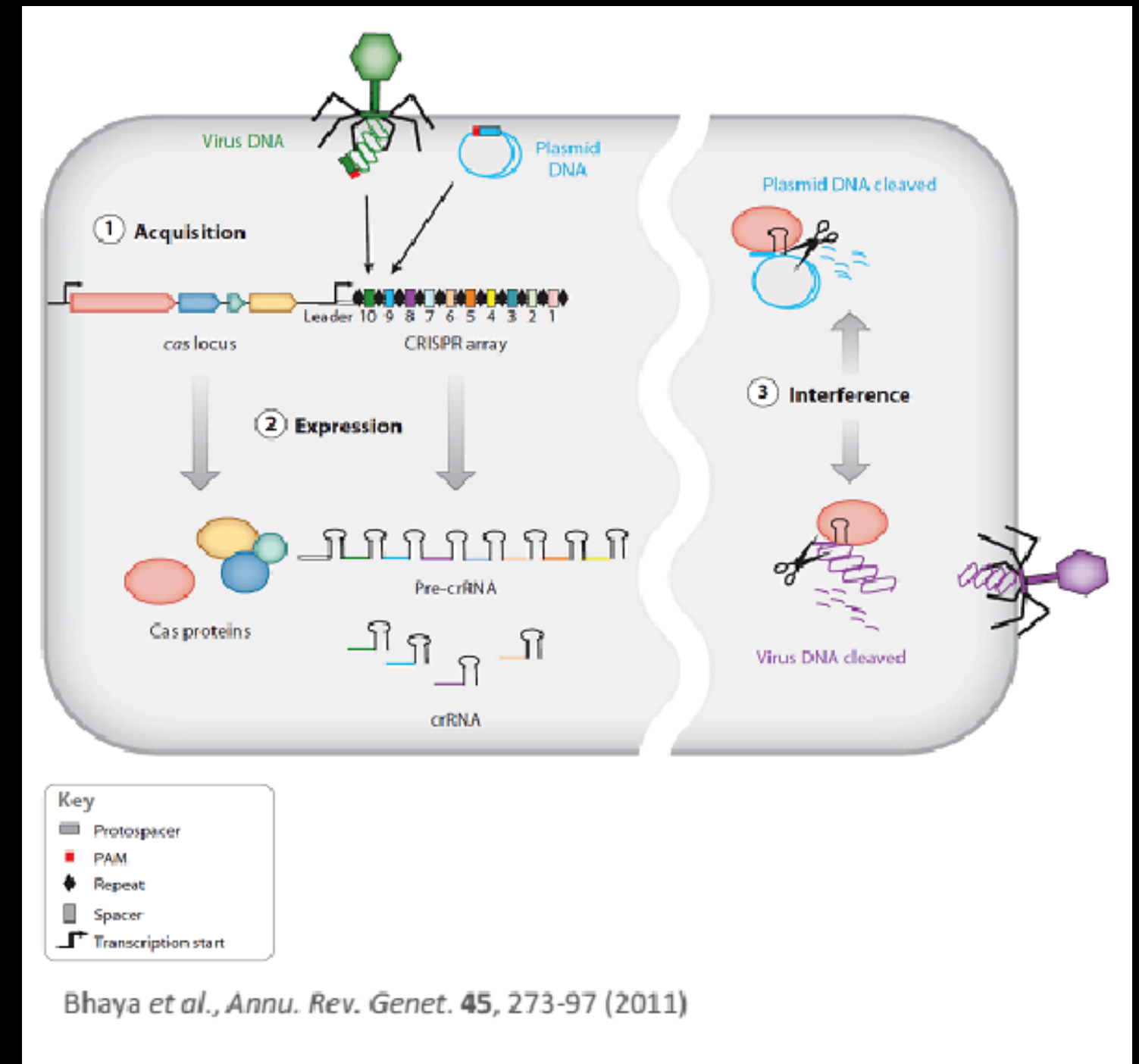
Morbitzer et al., 2011



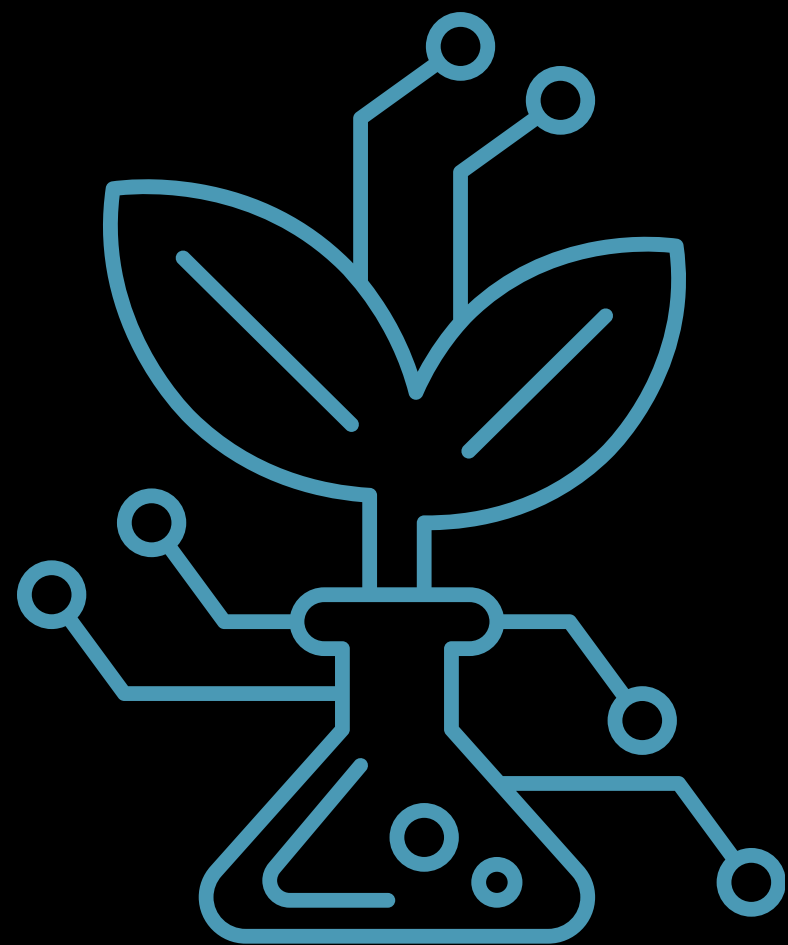
Mazhar Adli - review article : The CRISPR tool kit for genome editing and beyond  
DOI: 10.1038/s41467-018-04252-2

# CRISPR-Cas 9 system

The functions of CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) and CRISPR-associated (Cas) genes are essential in adaptive immunity in select bacteria and archaea, enabling the organisms to respond to and eliminate invading genetic material

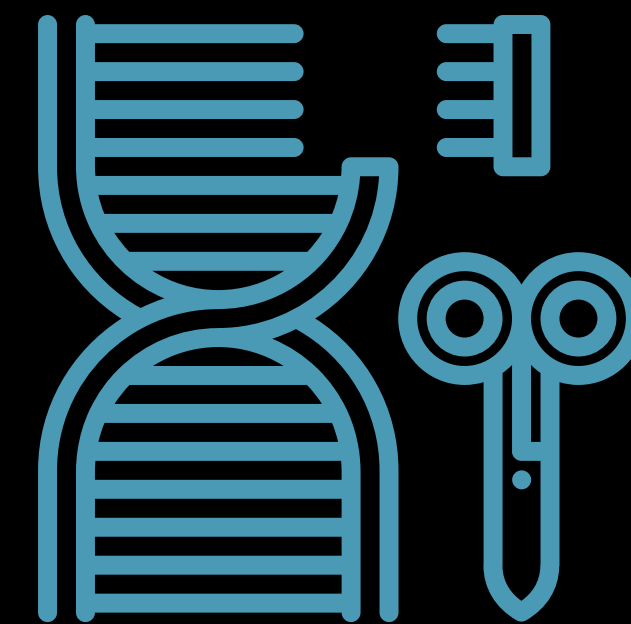






# GENE EDITING REQUIREMENTS

GENOME INFORMATION  
TRANSFORMATION PROCESS  
REGENERATION PROTOCOL  
ASSAY SYSTEM





tgtaagatccataattttatgccttgtggagggtaccacctgatgtgcagtgattatgtcat  
acattctaggtattaaaatacggaacacctccaatgggtggactacacgtcactaatacagta

10

20

30

40

50

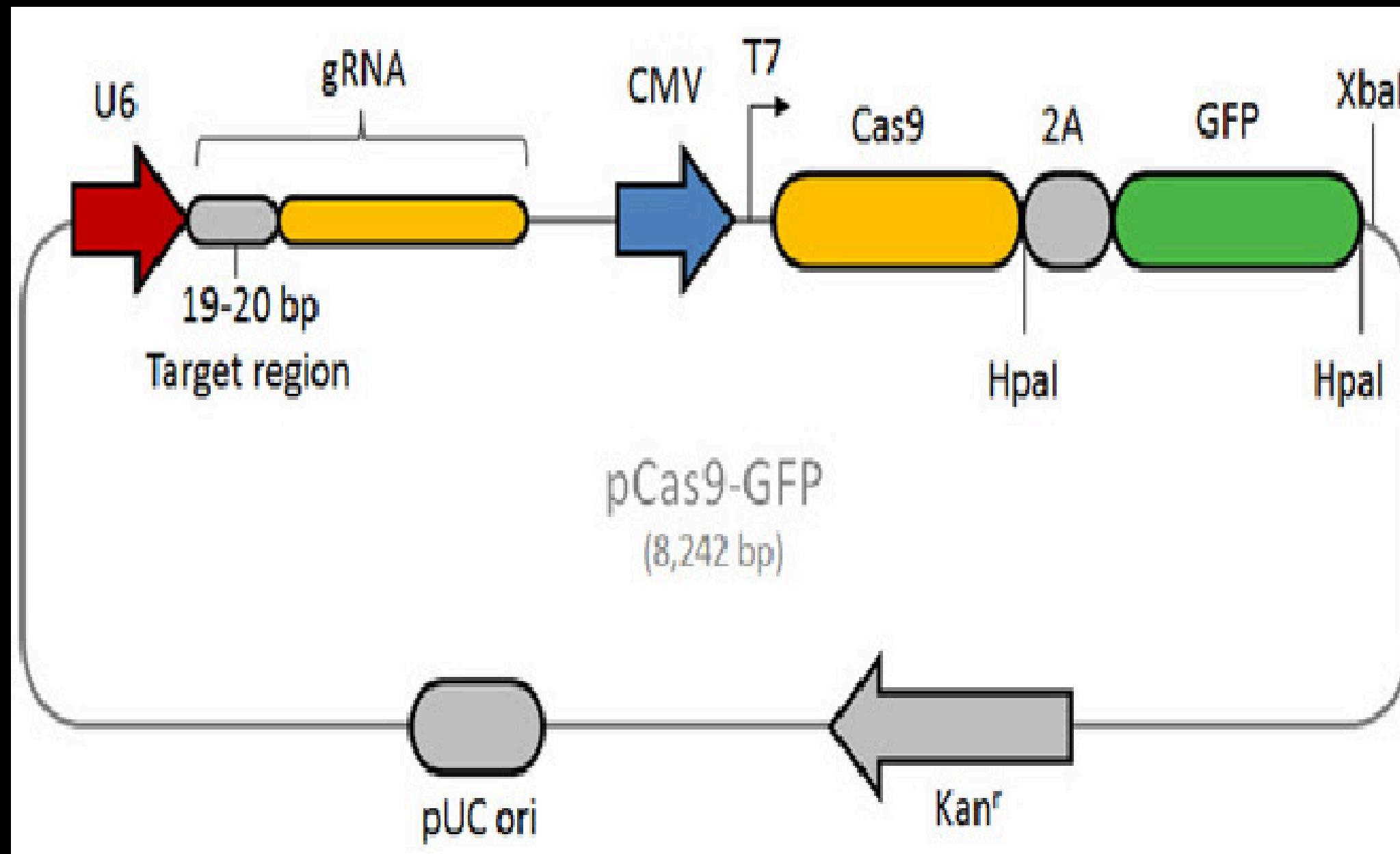
60

# Free gRNA design software

- <https://www.synthego.com/products/bioinformatics/crispr-design-tool>
- <https://www.benchling.com/crispr/>
- <https://horizondiscovery.com/en/products/tools/CRISPR-Design-Tool>
- <https://chopchop.cbu.uib.no/>
- <https://www.atum.bio/eCommerce/cas9/input>
- <https://www.genscript.com/gRNA-design-tool.html>



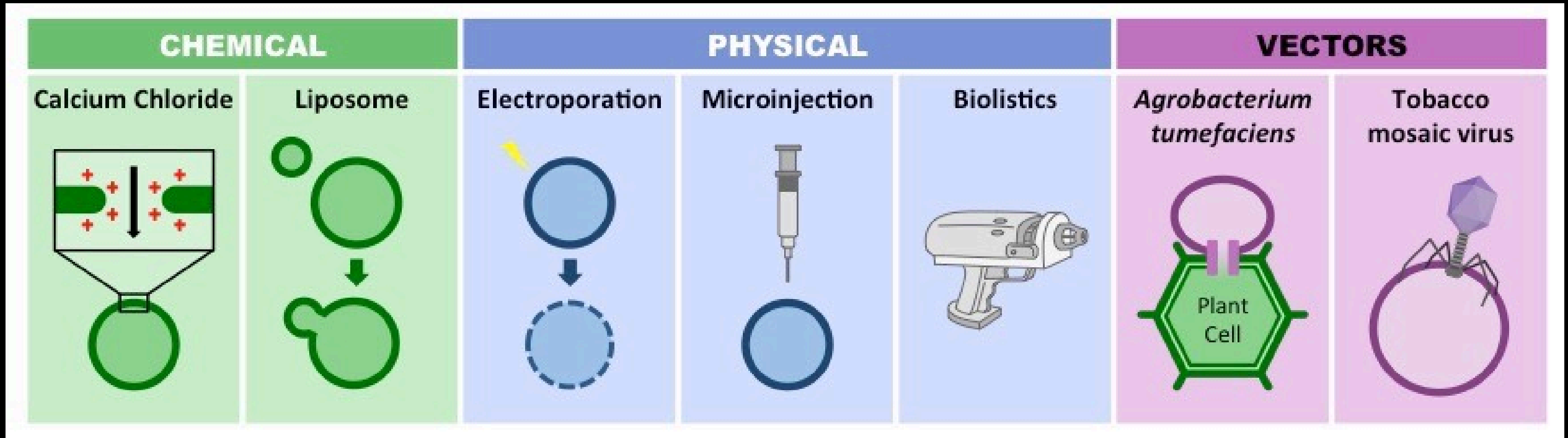
# CRISPR-Cas 9 Binary Vector



**Promoters:** 35S CaMV, U6  
**Terminator:** Nos  
**Plant selectable marker gene:**  
NPTII or Kan resistance  
gene  
**GOI:** gRNA, Cas9-GFP  
**Transfer:** RB and LB

<https://www.sigmaaldrich.com/content/dam/sigma-aldrich/articles/biology/Cas9-figure1.jpg>

# ***Transformation/ transfection techniques***



[https://ib.bioninja.com.au/\\_Media/gene-delivery-systems\\_med.jpeg](https://ib.bioninja.com.au/_Media/gene-delivery-systems_med.jpeg)

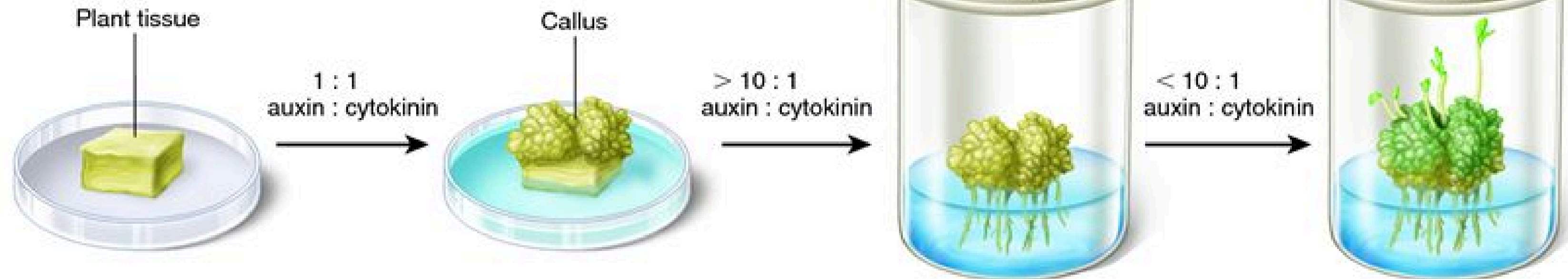
# ***Plant tissue culture is very critical in genome editing of plants***

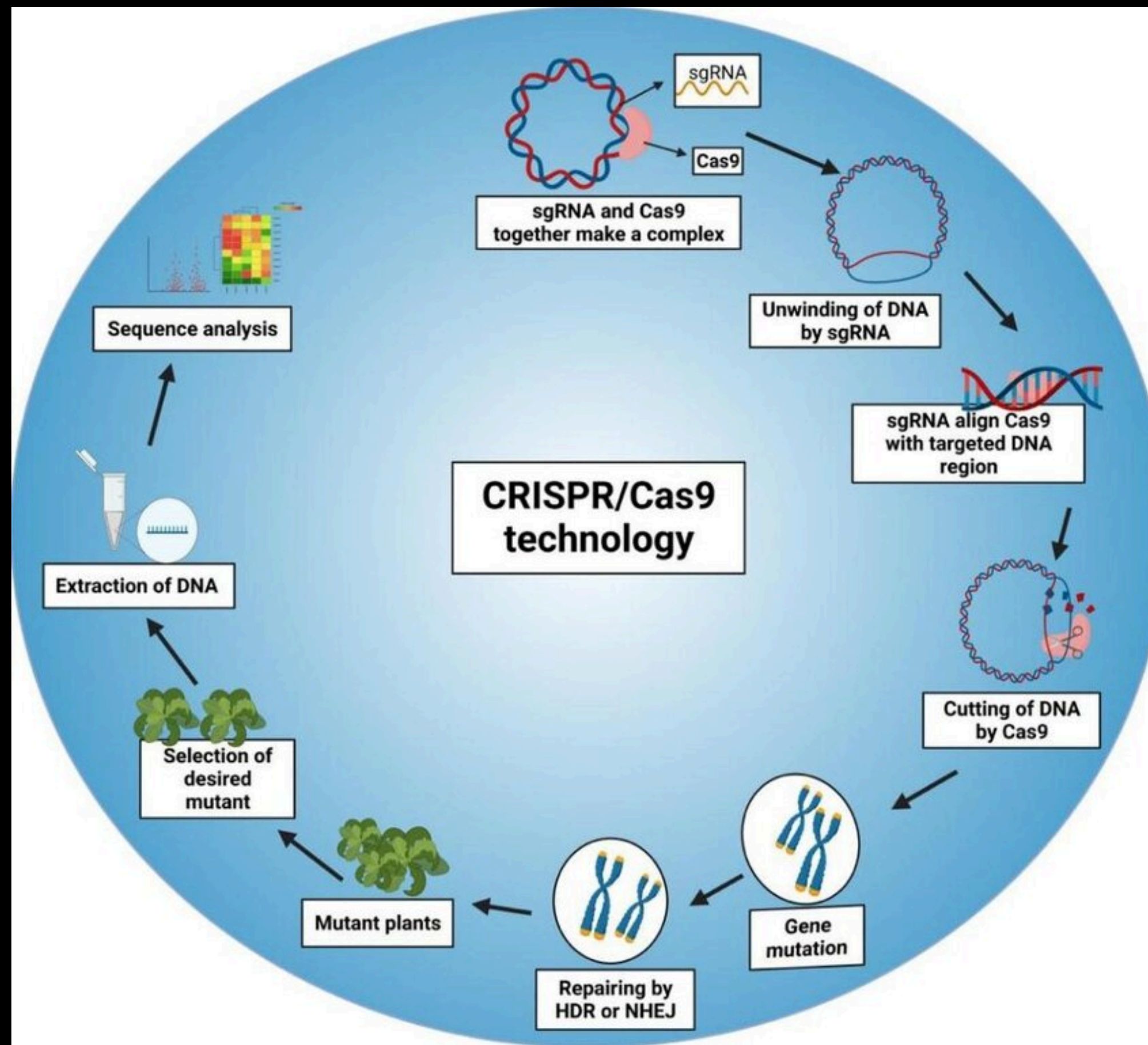
1 A block of tissue is removed from a plant, and the surfaces are sterilized.

2 Tissue is cultivated in dishes on nutrient media. Treatment with equal proportions of auxin and cytokinin causes formation of an undifferentiated callus.

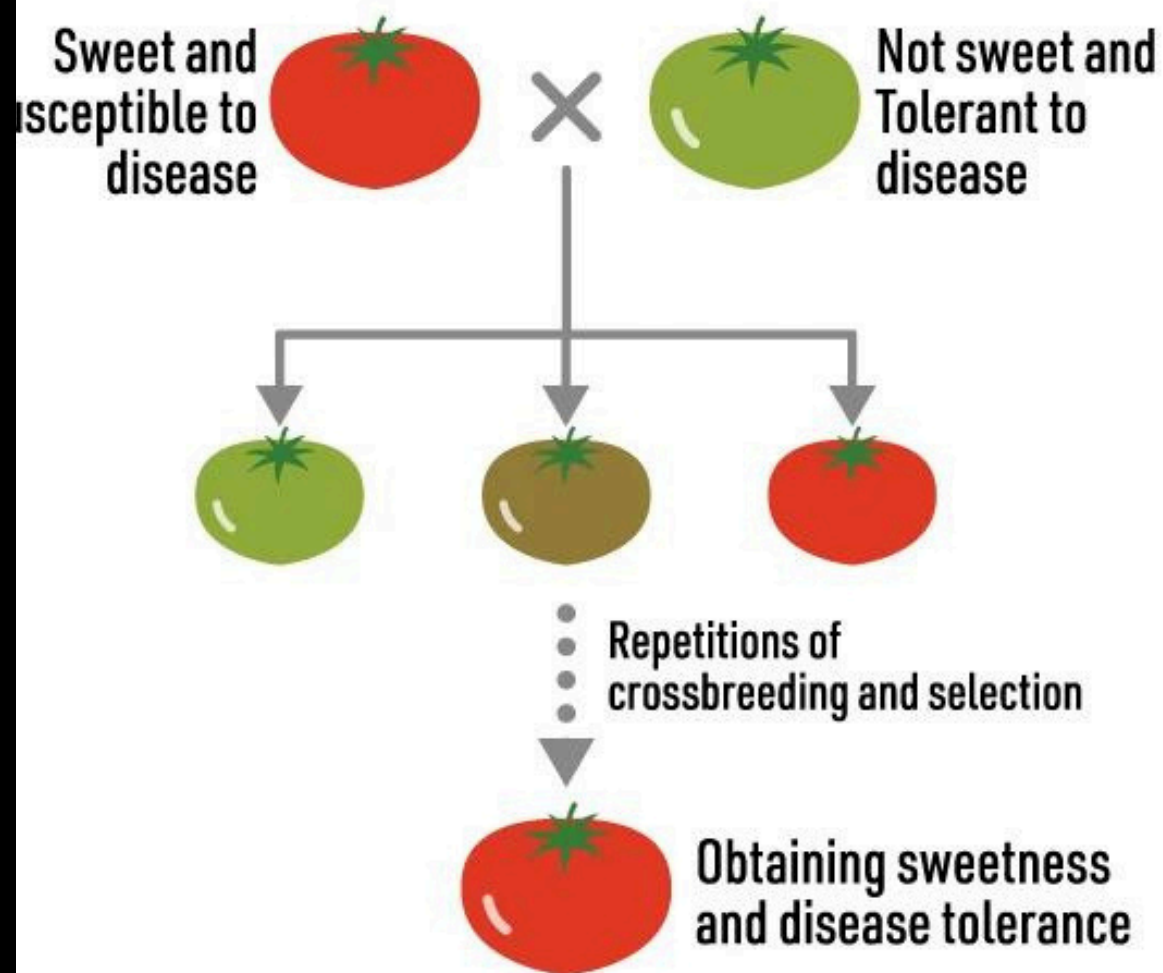
3 Treatment with auxin-to-cytokinin ratios greater than 10:1 causes root development on many replicate plantlets.

4 Treatment with auxin-to-cytokinin ratios less than 10:1 induces shoot development on many replicate plantlets.

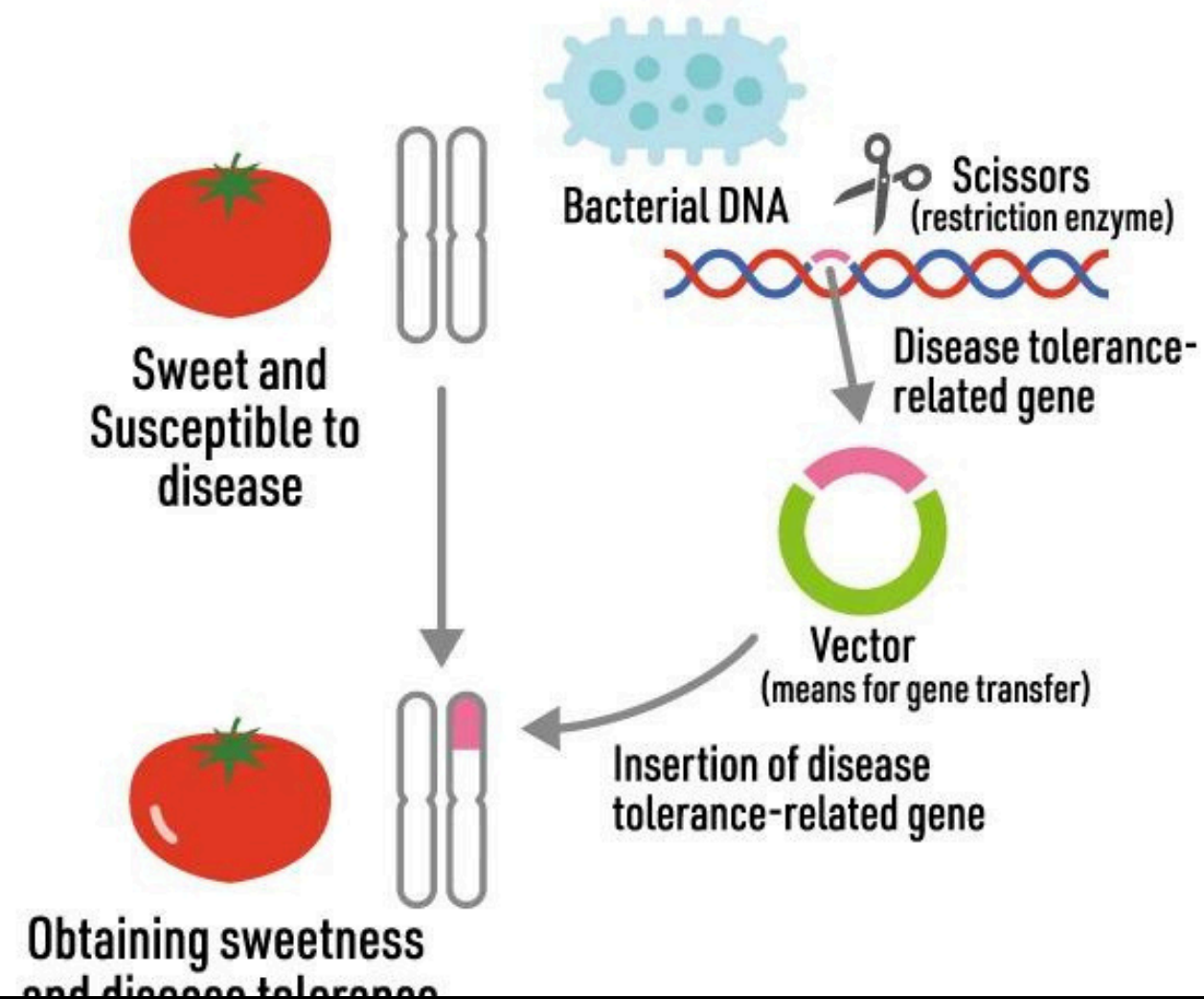




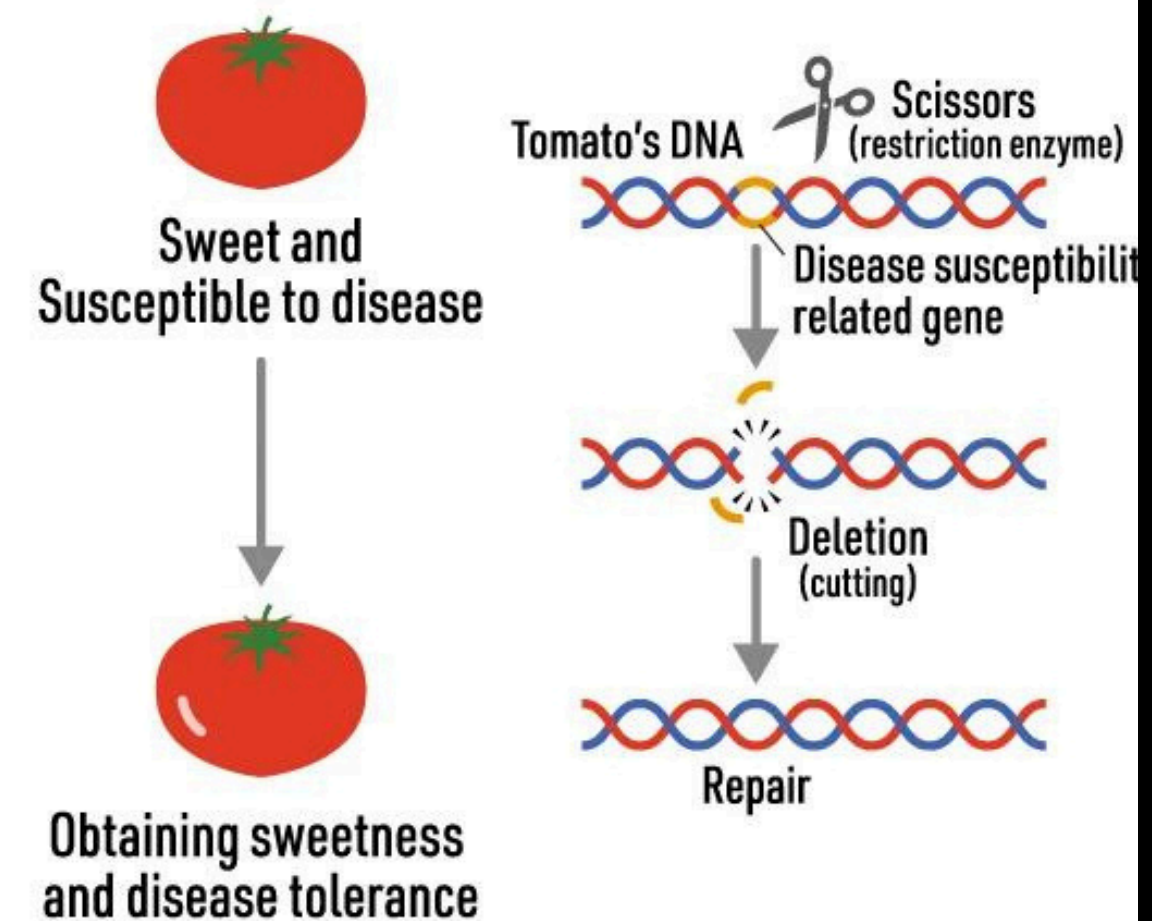
## Conventional Breeding



## Genetic Modification



## Gene Editing

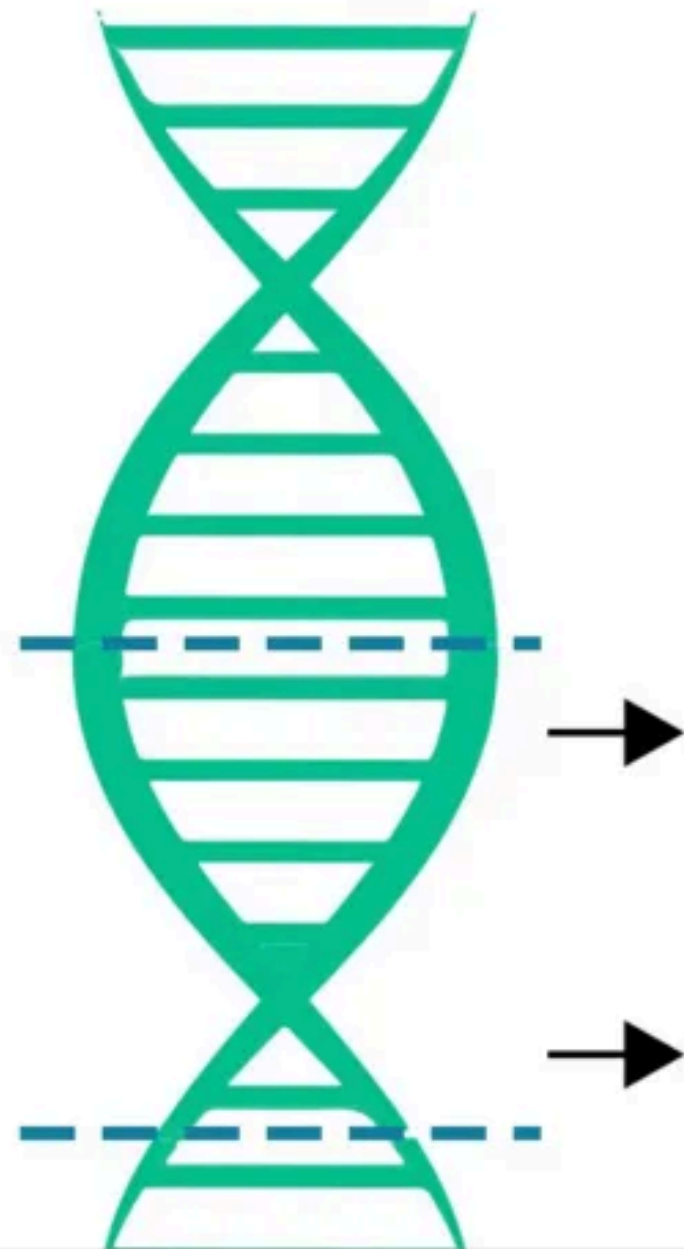


Kato-Nitta et al, 2019

# The difference between gene editing and modification

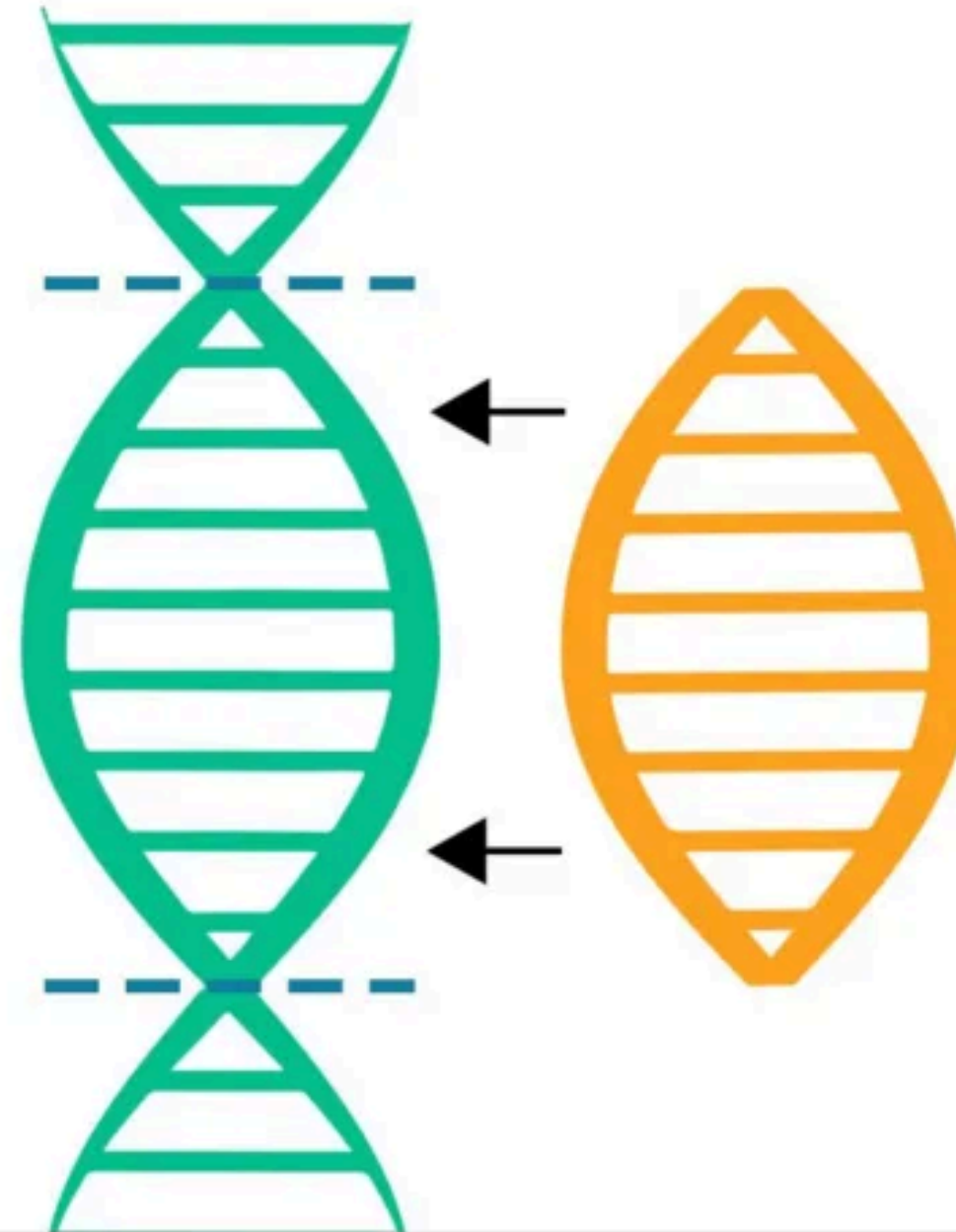
## Gene editing

Section of the plant's DNA snipped out



## Gene modification

Section of DNA added, sometimes from a different species



# Gene Edited Mushrooms



U.S. Department of Agriculture/Flickr, CC BY 2.0

- Yinong Yang in Penn State Univ
- mushrooms are a big cash crop in Pennsylvania
- knock-out of one of six polyphenol oxidase genes (PPO)
- reduction of activity by 30%
- first organism engineered by CRISPR–Cas9 to get a green-light from the U.S. government
- no detection of foreign DNA from virus or bacteria



# Gene Edited Soybean



[From calyxt.com](http://calyxt.com)

- This is the first gene-edited food released for consumers in the US
- 80% higher in oleic acid, 20% less in saturated fatty acids, has 0 grams trans fat per serving, has three times the fry-life and a longer shelf-life
- developed using TALENs by introducing stacked mutations in two fatty acid desaturase 2 genes (FAD2-1A and FAD2-1B)



# Gene edited Waxy corn



Photo Credit: Dow Dupont

- developed by Dow Dupont Pioneer/ Corteva
- all amylopectin and this specialty starch is used in industry
- waxy gene has been known to science for almost 100 years and used for conventional breeding
- fourth genome-edited food product that Japan did not subject to regulations for genetically engineered (GE) food



# First Gene Edited Product Approved in the Philippines



<https://tropic.bio/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Tropic-green-bananas-1536x928.jpg>

- Tropic's Non Browning Gene edited Banana
- Gene editing inducing Gene Silencing (GEiGS)
- Non-GMO exemption
- importation and propagation











Photo Credit: Sanatech Seed



## GABA enriched Tomato

- developed by Hiroshi Ezura at the University of Tsukuba in Japan
- 5 times the amount of Gamma Aminobutyric Acid
- now commercialized in Japan
- High GABA tomato is the second gene-edited crop that has been determined as non-GMO in the Philippines



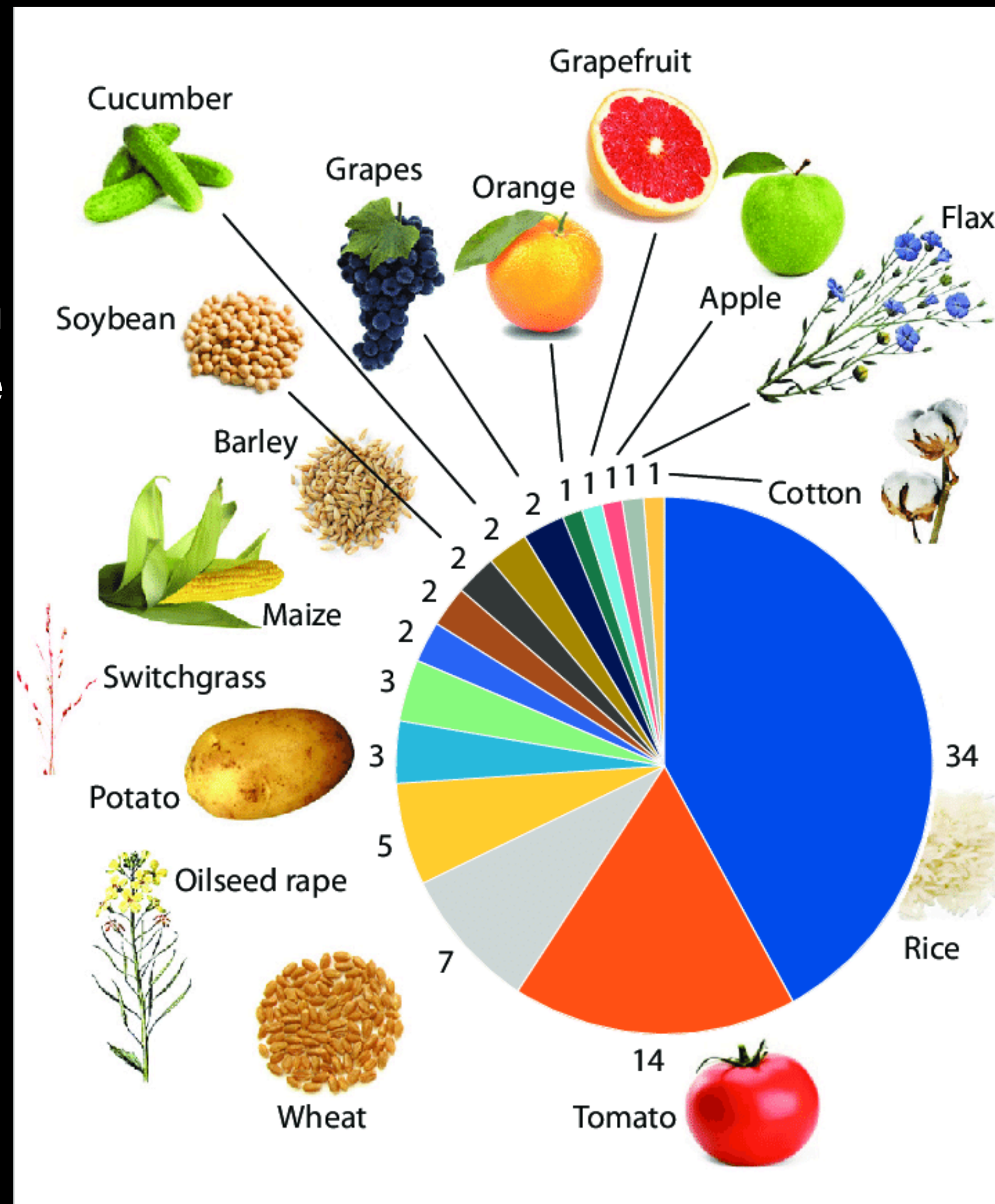
Crop		Trait		Edited genes	Stage
	Banana	Disease resistance (BXW, Fusarium wilt, BSV)		<i>DMR6</i> , BSV sequences	3,1
	Cassava	Disease resistance (BB)		<i>SWEET</i> gene promoters	3
		Food safety (cyanide-free)		Linamarin synthase	3
		Quality (waxy starch)		<i>GBSS1</i>	3
	Maize	Disease resistance (MLN)		<i>C6 QTL</i>	1
		Weed resistance ( <i>Striga</i> )		Strigolactone	3
	Potato	Disease resistance (PVY <sup>a</sup> , late blight)		<i>eIF-4E</i> , <i>StDMR6-1</i> , <i>StCHL1</i>	2
	Rice	Disease resistance (BLB, RHB)		<i>SWEET</i> gene promoters, <i>AGO4</i> , <i>STV11</i>	4,3
		Food safety (low arsenic and cadmium)		<i>OsNRAMP5</i> , <i>OsPT8</i> , <i>LS1</i> , <i>LS2</i>	3
		Nitrogen remobilization, and methane emission reduction		Unpublished	3
		Insect resistance <sup>a</sup> (BPH)		BPH resistance alleles	2
	Wheat	Disease resistance (rusts, mildew) <sup>a</sup>		<i>Lr67</i> and others	3

Pixley et al, 2022  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41588-022-01046->

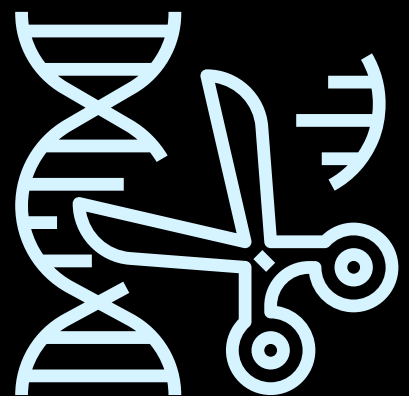


Number of genes modified using CRISPR/Cas system with the aim of crops improvement, summarized from (Korotkova et al., 2017) and the Table for the period from August 2013 till August 2018 (Korotkova et al, 2016)

81 genes in 16  
crops in 5 years



Korotkova et al., 2017  
DOI:[10.18699/VJ19.458](https://doi.org/10.18699/VJ19.458)



# TAKE HOME

- Genome editing is targeted mutagenesis
- CRISPR Cas system is the most popular due to its versatility and affordability.
- CRISPR-Cas 9 is a naturally occurring defense mechanism of bacteria against invading virus.
- Gene editing is a promising tool to increase DNA variation, thus giving increased opportunity to develop advances in crops, animal breeding and medicine





# Mahalo nui loa

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Any questions?