

Crop Modification Techniques

Cross Breeding

Combining two sexually compatible species to create a variety with the desired traits of the parents



The Honeycrisp Apple gets its famous texture and flavor by blending the traits of its parents.

Mutagenesis

Use of mutagens such as radioactivity to induce random mutations, creating the desired trait



Radiation was used to produce a deeper color in the red grapefruit.

Polyploidy

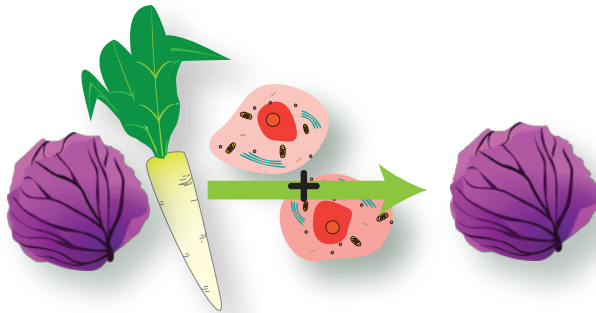
Multiplication of the number of chromosomes in a crop to impact its fertility



Seedless watermelons are created by crossing a plant with 2 sets of chromosomes with another that has 4 sets. The seedless fruit has 3 sets.

Protoplast Fusion

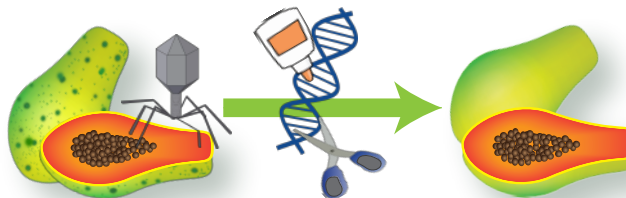
Fusion of cells or cell components to transfer traits between species



Male sterility is transferred from radishes to red cabbage by fusing their cells. Male sterility helps plant breeders make hybrid crops.

Transgenesis

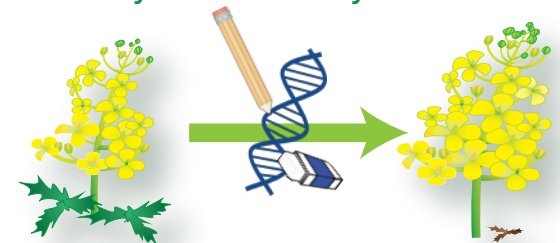
Addition of genes from any species to create a new variety with desired traits



The Rainbow Papaya is modified with a gene that gives it resistance to the Papaya Ringspot Virus.

Genome Editing

Use of an enzyme system to modify DNA directly within the cell



Genome editing was used to develop herbicide resistant canola to help farmers control weeds.

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