

Nobel Prize for Genome Editing Pioneers

Press Release

Brussels, 7 October 2020: Today, genome editing pioneers Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna have been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2020. They developed the CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing system – a promising technique using genetic scissors to edit DNA with extremely high precision.

“There is enormous power in this genetic tool, which affects us all. It has not only revolutionised basic science, but also resulted in innovative crops and will lead to ground-breaking new medical treatments,” stated Claes Gustafsson, chair of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry.

“On behalf of the European bioindustries, EuropaBio wholeheartedly congratulates the genome editing pioneers, and hopes that the prize will increase public awareness and political support for an innovation friendly approach also in the EU”, commented Bernard Grimm, Healthcare Biotech Director of EuropaBio.

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Notes for the editors:

- Link to Nobel Committee press release:
<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/2020/press-release/>
- EuropaBio information about Genome Editing:
<https://www.europabio.org/priority/genome-editing>

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About EuropaBio

EuropaBio, the European Association for Bioindustries, promotes an innovative and dynamic European biotechnology industry. EuropaBio and its members are committed to the socially responsible use of biotechnology to improve quality of life, to prevent, diagnose, treat and cure diseases, to improve the quality and quantity of food and feedstuffs and to move towards a biobased and zero-waste economy. EuropaBio represents 75 corporate members and 17 national biotechnology associations and bioregions.

Read more about our work at www.europabio.org.

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