

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

Materials (MS) (GMO ad hoc) Subcommittee Notes

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH); Kyla Smith (KS); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Nate Lewis (NL); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: Logan Petrey (LP); Cat McCluskey (CM); Jo Mirenda (JM)

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review August 12 notes
- Discussion of MS plans for January Meeting (if approved)
- Schedule for future discussions
- Reassignment of topics currently assigned to outgoing MS members
- Food technologist update
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **August 12, 2025 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Discussion of MS plans for January Meeting (if approved).** The MS will present the discussion document on induced mutagenesis at the meeting, so they can keep the topic moving forward.
- **Schedule future discussions.** See table below for discussion dates.
- **Reassignment of topics currently assigned to outgoing MS members.** There were no items that needed to be reassigned.
- **Food technologist update (HK).**
 - The USDA just installed Co-Pilot, which caused access issues in Sharepoint. NOP is seeking solutions for the Board members, and will let them know ASAP.
 - 2028 sunset templates are updated and available. NOP will re-review the documents and make any needed updates to the Boards versions on Sharepoint.
 - Sanitizers. The initial request was for a list of substances used in handling. The Food Technologist will continue to work on this once she receives feedback from Board members.
 - Mined substances. Almost finished with the draft research document for Handling, and will present it on the March 10 Subcommittee call. A member noted that substances used in Crops and Livestock are also potentially mined.
 - NOP sent the Board four new petitions today.
 - The Food Technologist welcomed new work agenda requests from the Board.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

Previous MS Notes

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

November 11, 2025 - cancelled (Veteran's Day)

December 9, 2025

Mined minerals - Food Tech. review (HK)

January 13, 2026 - tentative

January 20, 2026 @ 12:00 ET/9: AM PT

Excluded Methods - Induced mutagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss

February 10, 2026

Research Priorities (FQ)

March 10, 2026

Mined minerals' update (HK))

April 14, 2026

May 12, 2026

Work Agenda

*Highlight indicates discussion. *Highlight indicates action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote.

Projects

Project	National List	Contact	Doc Type	Notes	Scheduled/status	Target meeting
Research Priorities (RPs)	N/A	FQ	Proposal	May 2012 Framework Proposal Subcommittee reps to MS: Handling (HS): KS/DN Crops (CS): LP Livestock (LS): BC RPs due to MS from HS, CS, and LS by 7.8.25	5.13.25 7.8.25 8.12.25 2.10.26	Fall 2025
Excluded Methods - Induced mutagenesis - Fermentation (TBD)	N/A	CM, DN, BC	Discussion document	MS requested TR on induced mutagenesis 1.10.23. TR due to NOP end-June. TR sent to MS 7.6.23. TR sufficiency due 9.4.23. TR found sufficient 8.8.23.	5.13.25 6.10.25 7.8.25 8.12.25 1.13.26	Fall 2025
Tall oil, distilled	205.601 205.603	TBD	HOLD	2008 Petition (distilled tall oil). 2010 TR (tall oil). Petition sent to MS 9.4.20. Petition suff/TR request due 12.8.20. Petition found sufficient 12.8.20, and the MS requested a TR. TR due mid-Aug. TR sent to MS 8.13.21. TR suff due 10.12.21. TR found sufficient 10.12.21. Additional information from petitioner sent to MS 2.8.22 (see AMS-NOP-21-0087-0003). Returned to Subcomm at Spr 2022 meeting. On hold pending results from ANPR/guidance on inerts.	12.12.23	TBD

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 8, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Cancelled	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	TBD	0
Final recommendations due	TBD	~30 days post

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Materials (MS) (GMO ad hoc) Subcommittee Notes
Tuesday, August 12, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH); Kyla Smith (KS); Nate Lewis (NL); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: Cat McCluskey (CM); Logan Petrey (LP)

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review July 8 notes
- Induced mutagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss/vote
- Research priorities (All) - discuss/vote
- Food technologist update
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **July 8, 2025 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Induced mutagenesis (CM, DN, BC).** Members discussed the current iteration of the discussion document, addressed some outstanding comments, and finalized the document for a vote. Members were supportive of the document and look forward to stakeholder feedback.

Motion to accept the induced mutagenesis discussion document

Motion by: BC

Seconded by: FQ

Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Recuse: 0 Absent: 2

- **Research priorities (All).** Members had a brief discussion and, due to time constraints, will either complete the vote on an additional call, or finalize it via email. Members will share their availability with the Chair and NOP. ACS Note: the vote was conducted via email and recorded below.

Motion to accept the 2025 NOSB Research Priorities proposal

Motion by: Franklin Quarcoo

Seconded by: Brian Caldwell

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Recuse: 0 Absent: 1

- **Additional Items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

July 8, 2025

Induced mutagenesis discussion document (CM, DN, BC) - discuss

Research priorities (All) - discuss

August 12, 2025

Induced mutagenesis discussion document (CM, DN, BC) - discuss/vote

Research priorities (All) - discuss/vote

September 9, 2025
 October 14, 2025
 November 11, 2025 - cancelled (Veteran's Day)
 December 9, 2025

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Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

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Materials (MS) (GMO ad hoc) Subcommittee Notes

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH); Cat McCluskey (CM); Kyla Smith (KS); Nate Lewis (NL); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Logan Petrey (LP); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: None

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review June 10 notes
- Induced mutagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss
- Research priorities (All) - discuss
- Food technologist update
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **June 10 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Induced mutagenesis (CM, DN, BC).** One of the co-leads introduced a draft document noting that the scope of the discussion document is limited to seeds and not microbes or animal breeding. Members provided feedback and suggestions for additions and/or changes. The co-leads will continue discussing the draft and the MS will discuss and vote on the document on the next call.
- **Research priorities (All).** The MS received the lists of priorities from the Crops, Livestock, and Handling Subcommittees and the lead will combine the information into the final document for the August MS call. The Handling Chair reviewed the 3 topics that were added under that scope. The MS Chair highlighted comments from the Spring meeting, and as they discussed on the last MS call, the suggestions are mostly cross-cutting and don't fit well into one scope. The group discussed which ones to add, how to list them, and how to ensure that they are curated. A member suggested an "interdisciplinary category". The lead, with assistance from two other members (AH and BC), will finalize the document for the next call. A member also encouraged the group to make sure topics are introduced earlier in the semester so there is more time for discussion.
- **Food technologist update.** The food technologist has two active research requests, is reviewing several petitions, and is also working on the International section for the 2028 sunsets.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

June 10, 2025

Induced mutagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss
Sanitizers (KS)

July 8, 2025

Induced mutagenesis discussion document (CM, DN, BC) - discuss
Research priorities (All) - discuss

August 12, 2025

Induced mutagenesis discussion document (CM, DN, BC) - discuss/vote
Research priorities (All) - discuss/vote

September 9, 2025

October 14, 2025

November 11, 2025 - cancelled (Veteran's Day)

December 9, 2025

Work Agenda

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Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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Materials (MS) (GMO ad hoc) Subcommittee Notes
Tuesday, June 10, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH); Cat McCluskey (CM); Kyla Smith (KS); Nate Lewis (NL); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: Logan Petrey (LP)

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review May 13 notes
- Induced metagenesis (CM, DN, BC)
- Sanitizers (KS)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **May 13 notes** were accepted as written
- **Induced metagenesis (CM, DN, BC).** One of the co-leads presented two documents for discussion: Document #1 is a previous discussion document (from Fall 2024) and document #2 is the current document the MS is preparing for the Fall 2025 meeting.. Comments on the Fall 2024 document were mixed on whether IM should be considered an excluded method. Members acknowledged the complexity of this topic and implications across other subcommittees. The group discussed the goal, timeline, and summary of the current draft discussion document. The leads will continue to work on the document and the MS will discuss it on the next call.
- **Sanitizers (KS).** The NOSB has discussed the topic of sanitizers several times since 2017, both in the Handling and the Materials Subcommittees. The MS would like to have the Food Technologist compile information about sanitizers that currently appear on the National List for the Board to use during its upcoming sunset review. The Subcommittee would also use the information to determine if/what other potential future work agenda request might be appropriate. The MS discussed the request and due dates with the Food Technologist, and will add this as an agenda item on the June 17 Executive call.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

May 13, 2025

June 10, 2025

Induced metagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss

Sanitizers (KS)

July 8, 2025

Induced metagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss

August 12, 2025

Induced metagenesis (CM, DN, BC) - discuss/vote

Finalize Research priorities (All) - discuss/vote

September 9, 2025

October 14, 2025

November 11, 2025 - cancelled (Veteran's Day)

December 9, 2025

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Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH); Cat McCluskey (CM); Kyla Smith (KS); Logan Petrey (LP); Nate Lewis (NL); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: None

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- March 11 notes approved via email
- Research Priorities Framework
- Food Technologist update (HK)
- Excluded Methods - Induced mutagenesis
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **March 11 notes** approved via email
- **Research Priorities Framework** (all). Members discussed the research priorities, specifically the format, being able to close the loop on priorities that have been completed, and leveraging non-Federal funding groups. A member mentioned linking the [original 2012 framework](#) in the PPM or member guide, and another member asked if it was time to revisit the framework, and reevaluate what is working and what is not. The group talked about the Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) hub, which is a helpful tool to search for research topics. A member asked if NOSB tracks which priorities end up in what RFAs, and whether there has been any engagement with eOrganic. The MS Chair noted that sometimes researchers are working on projects that are similar in nature to an NOSB research priority, and perhaps with a small modification, could incorporate the priority. The MS will revisit the list and talk more about re-formatting, perhaps according to the criteria, as listed in the framework.
- **Food Technologist update (HK).**
 - The Food Technologist is finishing summaries of the written comments, and is looking for feedback about this format for next time.
 - The MS would like the Food Technologist to take up a new work request on sanitizers, a topic that the Board has previously discussed. The lead (KS) will recirculate the initial documents and the MS will add it to the June 10 agenda.
- **Excluded Methods - Induced mutagenesis (DN).** The lead summarized the previous work and posed a question to the group about next steps. A member noted that the NOSB requested a TR on induced mutagenesis and wrote a discussion document, and encouraged members to read/re-read both. The group is planning to put forth a second discussion document for the Fall 2025 meeting. Members discussed various aspects of the new document, such as exploring whether induced mutagenesis is an excluded method, whether to consider incorporating the two different viewpoints about whether it is or isn't, and other International regulations.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

April 8, 2025 - Cancelled

May 13, 2025

June 10, 2025
 Induced metagenesis (DN, BC, CM)
 Sanitizers (KS)
 July 8, 2025
 August 12, 2025
 September 9, 2025
 October 14, 2025
 November 11, 2025 - cancelled (Veteran's Day)
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Absent: None

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review February 11, 2025 notes
- NOSB Chair update
- Food Technologist update (HK)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **February 11, 2025** notes were accepted as written.
- **NOSB Chair update.**
 - The NOSB Chair updated members on the status of the Spring meeting. The meeting will be rescheduled but the date is uncertain at this time.
 - The NOSB will continue work on its projects in the interim. NOP will draft the next iteration of the 2027 sunset templates, so members can prep them for the Fall meeting. NOP will also develop the list of 2028 sunsets, so members can assign leads and determine the need for TRs.
 - Several members shared stories of what they are experiencing as a result of federal funding disruptions. Members in academia indicated that both state and federal funding is frozen, research is on hold, and some research grants have been cancelled altogether. Members in other organizations have also experienced freezing and/or canceling grants. Members expressed concern about negative impacts on future research and the next generation of students.
 - The PDS agenda includes discussion about how to explore engagement with stakeholders.
- **Food Technologist update (HK).** No specific updates for Materials. The Food Technologist has two active requests for other Subcommittees. The project on mined substances is nearly done.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

February 11, 2025

March 11, 2025

April 8, 2025 - Cancelled

May 2025

June 2025

July 2025

August 2025

September 2025

October 2025

November 2025

December 2025

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NOP - Draft Spring 2025 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 7, 2025	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2025 proposals due to NOP	Feb 13, 2025	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	March 28, 2025	7.5
Public comment closes	April 28, 2025	3.5

NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	April 29, 2025	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 22 & 24, 2025	1
Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Virtual	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

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Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
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Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

Materials (MS) (GMO ad hoc) Subcommittee Notes

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH); Cat McCluskey (CM); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Nate Lewis (NL); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: Kyla Smith (KS); Logan Petrey (LP)

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review January 14, 2025 notes
- Introductions.
- Research Priorities (RPs) - discuss/vote
- Induced mutagenesis (MJ/DN/BC) - discuss/vote
- Updates/comments from Food Technologist (HK)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **January 14, 2025** notes were approved as written with a correction to the roll.
- **Introductions.** Members introduced themselves and welcomed the new members
- **Research Priorities (RPs) discussion document.** The group reviewed the list of research priorities submitted by the other Subcommittees, and moved to a vote on the final document.

Motion to accept the discussion document on research priorities

Motion by: FQ

Seconded by: BC

Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Recuse: 0 Absent: 2

- **Induced mutagenesis (IM) discussion document (DN/BC).** The co-lead summarized the draft document, and the group discussed plant genetics and seed specifically. Members reviewed the amended questions and upon further comment and discussion, decided to continue work on this document and present it at the Fall 2025 meeting. A member added that currently IM is on the excluded methods TBD list, and it's unclear whether it is considered a traditional breeding technique, so the first step would be to determine if it should be excluded.
- **Food Technologist update (HK).** No update at this time.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

Future call schedule (2nd Tuesday 1:00 PM ET | 10:00 AM PT, except where noted)

January 14, 2025

February 11, 2025

March 11, 2025

April 8, 2025

May 2025

June 2025

July 2025

August 2025
 September 2025
 October 2025
 November 2025
 December 2025

Work Agenda

*Highlight indicates discussion. *Highlight indicates action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote.

Projects

Project	National List	Contact	Doc Type	Notes	Scheduled/status	Target meeting
Research Priorities (RPs)	N/A	FQ	Discussion Doc	May 2012 Framework Proposal Subcommittee reps to MS: Handling (HS): KS/DN Crops (CS): LP Livestock (LS): BC RPs due to MS from HS, CS, and LS by 01.9.25	1.14.25 2.11.25	Spr 2025
Excluded Methods - Induced mutagenesis - Fermentation (TBD)	N/A	DN/B C/CM	Discussion document	MS requested TR on induced mutagenesis 1.10.23. TR due to NOP end-June. TR sent to MS 7.6.23. TR sufficiency due 9.4.23. TR found sufficient 8.8.23.	11.19.24 12.10.24 1.14.25 2.11.25	Fall 2025
Tall oil, distilled	205.601 205.603	WT	HOLD	2008 Petition (distilled tall oil). 2010 TR (tall oil). Petition sent to MS 9.4.20. Petition suff/TR request due 12.8.20. Petition found sufficient 12.8.20, and the MS requested a TR. TR due mid-Aug. TR sent to MS 8.13.21. TR suff due 10.12.21. TR found sufficient 10.12.21. Additional information from petitioner sent to MS 2.8.22 (see AMS-NOP-21-0087-0003). Returned to Subcomm at Spr 2022 meeting. On hold pending results from ANPR/guidance on inerts.	12.12.23	TBD

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Jan 24, 2025	16 -20

NOP - Draft Spring 2025 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 7, 2025	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2025 proposals due to NOP	Feb 13, 2025	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	Mar 3, 2025	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 2, 2025	3.5
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Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Tempe, AZ	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

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Materials (MS) (GMO ad hoc) Subcommittee Notes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 1:00 pm ET

Present: Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Vice Chair; Mindee Jeffery (MJ); Logan Petrey (LP); Dilip Nandwani (DN); Kyla Smith (KS); Nate Lewis (NL); Allison Johnson (AJ) - observer

Absent: Wood Turner (WT)

Staff: Heather Kumar (HK); Jo Mirenda (JM); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review December 10, 2024 notes
- Research Priorities (RPs) - discuss
- Induced mutagenesis (MJ/DN/BC) - discuss
- Updates/comments from Food Technologist (HK)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **December 10, 2024** notes were approved as written
- **Research Priorities (RPs)(All).** The group discussed the research priorities from Livestock and Crops. Handling will complete its list on the next call and send it to the MS.
- **Induced mutagenesis (IM) (BC/MJ/DN).** Members discussed various sections of the draft document, specifically organic seed use and propagation. A member suggested that it would be helpful to have more clarity on the ultimate goal of this document, given that the topic of organic seed is not specific to the National List. There is a section in the regulations regarding seed, so that may be an option. A member asked about intellectual property (IP) rights and how that works for products of IM v. classic GE seeds/traits. The lead added that IFOAM has an informative position paper, which he linked in the draft document. In Europe, they maintain a positive list, which he noted has pros and cons and may not be the best way forward for the U.S. Several members added feedback about the document, and the lead will modify so the MS can finalize the document at the February call. A member added that the first step might be to determine whether IM is or is not an excluded method, and the path they take would then depend on that. MJ expressed parting thoughts about the fact that there are several NOSB members who have seed breeding expertise, and expressed gratefulness as people courageously move ahead.
- **Food Technologist (HK).** No update at this time.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous MS Notes](#)

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