

Genetic engineering turns mosquitoes into disease fighting weapons



Good intentions often go bad. Questions over the potential danger from spraying DDT to control malaria and other insect-borne scourges by killing disease-carrying mosquitoes, later proven to be exaggerated, led to a revival of that deadly scourge. The problem remains today, as governments have been reluctant to revive the use of DDT in the face of continuing activist protests. Now scientists are coming up with new solutions—genetically modifying bugs. The only barriers appear to be relatively minor scientific hurdles...and political ones put by dedicated anti-GM groups, such as GeneWatch UK.

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