GM crop efficacy may be jeopardized by pest mutations

Genetic mutations in pests that allow them to develop resistance to <u>genetically-modified (GM) crops</u>may be much more diverse in field conditions than in laboratory tests, according to a study. Laboratory tests are commonly used to <u>develop strategies</u> to fight emerging resistance in plant pests but these new discoveries suggest that such testing itself may, in this case, be insufficient. The newly discovered mutations may also mean that a commonly used strategy for reducing resistance may be less effective than believed, according a study in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, published last month (11 July).

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