Genetically engineered algae for biofuel could pose potential risks

Algae are high on the genetic engineering agenda as a potential source for biofuel, and they should be subjected to independent studies of any environmental risks that could be linked to cultivating algae for this purpose, two prominent researchers say.

Writing in *BioScience*, the researchers argue that ecology experts should be among scientists given independent authority and adequate funding to explore any potential unintended consequences of this technological pursuit. A critical baseline concern is whether genetically engineered algae would be able to survive in the wild, said Allison Snow, professor of evolution, ecology, and organismal biology at Ohio State University and lead author of the paper.

View the original article here: Genetically engineered algae for biofuel pose potential risks – R & D Magazine