

Why the Gates Foundation wants to make Golden Rice

Imagine if you could prevent hundreds of millions of children from suffering malnutrition maladies such as blindness, stunting, poor health overall and death by simply dropping a missing vitamin in their daily bowl of rice. Or by messing around with a few genes.

That's essentially what scientists, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, hope to accomplish with a new form of rice dubbed 'golden rice.'

It's golden because, unlike natural rice, it has been genetically modified to produce the very yellow nutrient and precursor to vitamin A known as beta carotene. Experts estimate that 250 million poor children don't get enough vitamin A in their diet, at least half a million die, go blind or otherwise suffer greatly for the lack of it.

Despite its intended humanitarian purpose, golden rice is highly controversial – because it is a GMO, a genetically modified organism.

Read the full, original article: [GM food fight: Why the Gates Foundation wants to make rice golden](#)