

## Genetically engineering heat resistance in plants more difficult than herbicide resistance

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Currently, most of the genetically modified crops commercially available have added traits that protect plants from pests and make them resistant to herbicides. But in the future, the technology could be used more to address crop vulnerabilities to climate change, by incorporating traits for drought resistance and for heat and cold tolerance, according to the [National Academy of Sciences] report.

. . . .

A major challenge is that adding traits like heat tolerance is much more complex than altering a single gene to make a plant herbicide-resistant, said Richard Amasino, a member of the NAS committee.

“If we had the basic knowledge to enable corn to grow at higher temperatures, then we’ve got a buffer to climate change. But do we understand the basic biochemistry of how that might work? No. There is no one magic little protein you put in. . . .” Amasino said.

**Read full, original post:** [Genetically Engineered Crops Are Safe and Possibly Good for Climate Change](#)