

Despite skepticism of industry in Florida, biotech offers solutions to Zika, citrus greening

One growing concern...is what kind of future [we're] going to have if activists block advances in the application of biotechnology. Florida needs this technology to fight diseases in agriculture like citrus greening or in humans like the deadly Zika virus.

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The modified mosquito is harmless to humans...Yet activists are telling locals in the Florida Keys to oppose trials of the mosquito that could nearly wipe out the threat of Zika.

The concept is new and scary to them. Yet what kind of future would we have if we shunned new medical advances? Would we still be relying on blood-letting and leeches?

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Genetic modification could save Florida's \$10 billion citrus industry...[but s]ome would rather see Florida's citrus industry destroyed, along with tens of thousands of jobs, than reconsider an irrational fear.

I don't want my daughters to grow up in a society built on fear and ignorance. I want them to be able to take advantage of all the opportunity that biotech has to offer....

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: A Polk Perspective: Florida's families depend on a healthy attitude toward biotech