

High-elevation maize genes may hold keys to help crops adapt to changing climate

With the onset of climate change and changes in irrigation, adapting food crops to grow in diverse environments could help feed the world. Now University of California, Davis, scientists are leading a major new project, funded by the National Science Foundation with \$4.1 million over five years, to study genetic adaptation to different environments in maize.

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The team is investigating the genetic basis of [maize](#) adaptation to high-elevation environments, which will shed light on how wild and domesticated maize populations adapt to new climates...

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Is adaptation to cold environments regulated by a few genes, thousands of genes, or a specific set (or different sets) of genes each time?...

“We’ll learn about particular genes or loci in maize that are important for adapting to these types of climates. But we also need to determine how genes are expressed in different environments, along with the genetic basis for gene expression evolution,” said Dan Runcie, also a plant sciences professor at UC Davis.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Maize genetics may show how crops adapt to climate change](#)