

Legal wrangle puts brakes on new strawberry that's 'bigger, brighter and stays sweeter longer'

Two retired food scientists are locked in an epicurean feud with the University of California over the fate of the strawberry.

The university is preparing for trial in federal court [May 2017] in a case alleging its former employees—Douglas Shaw and Kirk Larson—stole the school's intellectual property when they decided to go into business.



For years, the two scientists—both former professors at the university's

campus in Davis—had conducted painstaking research in the lab and strawberry fields in a quest to figure out how to grow a strawberry that's bigger, brighter, and stays sweeter for longer than average. They apparently made a lot of progress [they named their venture named [California Berry Cultivars](#)]; the scientists have filed a \$45 million countersuit against the university, claiming it unfairly kept their research locked away in a freezer—research that could be a major boon to the strawberry industry writ large, according to the [Associated Press](#).

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [A bitter legal battle in California is blocking everyone from eating sweeter strawberries](#)