

'Food Evolution' review: Film shows fear of GMOs in rich countries hurts African farmers

The *Food Evolution* documentary, directed by Oscar-nominated filmmaker Scott Hamilton Kennedy and narrated by pop astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, navigates the thorny landscape of a debate that often casts GMOs as a scapegoat for myriad perceived ills of modern agriculture.

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"People, usually of intellectual and financial privilege, who care about the planet and about food, in looking for good decisions, have oversimplified the conversation and left out a lot of nuance" on the discussion around GE foods, [said] Kennedy. That lack of nuance in a sometimes vicious discussion has led to a fear-laden, largely negative public opinion with far-reaching repercussions.

Consider Banana Xanthomonas Wilt (BXW). A bacterial disease, BXW affects all banana cultivars and is considered one of the greatest threats to banana productivity and food security in Uganda and eastern Africa, where the fruit is a staple crop. There are banana plants engineered with a pepper gene that show strong resistance to banana wilt, but they languish behind a guarded fence, prohibited from reaching farmers. "I have grief on my heart," says Francis Nanzin, Ugandan subsistence farmer, in this clip exclusive to Forbes:

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Food Evolution Movie Challenges Public Fear Of GMOs](#)