

Talking Biotech: The powerful potential—and risks—of CRISPR engineered ‘gene drives’

Gene drives are a powerful technology that may be used to control pests. The concepts key off of exploiting genetic vulnerabilities that are rapidly inherited, and cause populations to crash over a short time. Such instances happen naturally, but now scientists are engineering the genetics of pests to induce steep population declines from gene drives. Fred Gould from North Carolina State University discusses the technology, its risks, regulation and some of the social aspects of the application of the science.

This episode is part one of a two-part series on gene drives. This episode (part one) is on the technology and its ecological implications. The social considerations are discussed in [part two](#) in an interview with Jennifer Kuzma.

https://geneticliteracyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/127_Gould.mp3

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