

Podcast: Yale neurologist Steven Novella debunks popular myths about GMO golden rice

As Bangladesh [prepares to release](#) GMO golden rice, Yale University clinical neurologist Steven Novella and co-hosts debunk some popular myths about the vitamin-fortified staple crop on this episode of the [Skeptic's Guide to the Universe](#). Researchers engineered golden rice to combat vitamin A deficiency in the developing world, which causes blindness in [250,000 to 500,000 children](#) every year. But their work has drawn fierce opposition.

Led by the environmental nonprofit [Greenpeace](#), anti-GMO groups have fought for years to block the introduction of golden rice, claiming it is a 'Trojan horse' designed to sneak GMO seeds into countries that don't want them. This conspiratorial narrative, Novella says, is a dishonest attempt to shift focus away from the science that shows golden rice is safe and effective.

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/skepticast2019-03-16.mp3>

[Editor's note: Golden rice segment begins at the 13-minute mark of the episode.]

Original podcast: [Latest Podcast: Episode #714 – 03/16/2019](#)