

## Podcast: Genesis of GMOs—How the tools of biotechnology came to be

Following some groundbreaking experiments in the early 1970s, [biologists discovered](#) they could move DNA between species. This development launched the field of biotechnology and yielded significant results in medicine and agriculture, including [genetically engineered insulin](#) and herbicide-resistant crops that were widely adopted by farmers. Biotech research has advanced significantly since its early days. Today we count [vitamin-fortified rice](#), novel cancer treatments and [disease-resistant plants](#) among the many products made possible by genetic engineering.

While these discoveries excited many scientists and benefited consumers, they also [fueled concerns](#) that science had gone too far, eventually giving rise to the modern anti-GMO movement that has mischaracterized biotechnology and worked fervently to slow its progress. Join plant pathologist Steve Savage as he takes a look back at the humble beginnings of this revolutionary field of research.

**[Steve Savage](#)** is a plant pathologist and senior contributor to the GLP. Follow him on Twitter [@grapedoc](#). The **[Pop Agriculture podcast](#)** is available for listening or subscription on [iTunes](#) and [Google Podcasts](#).