

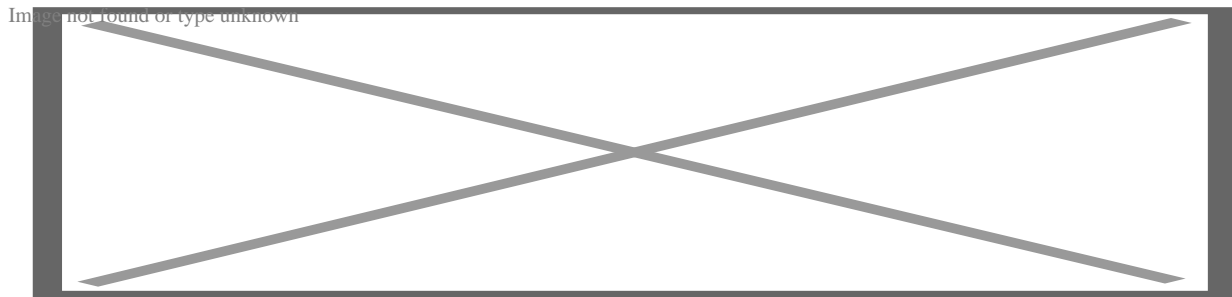
Farming uses too much water? These CRISPR gene-edited tomatoes resist drought and still bear fruit

Researchers have [successfully](#) used CRISPR to develop tomato plants that use water more efficiently, meaning they need less water to grow. This is achieved without compromising the number of tomatoes, their taste, or their quality.

Tomato plants tend to lose a lot of water through small openings in their leaves, known as stomata, which also let in carbon dioxide necessary for growth.

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Credit: Mallikarjuna R. Puli et. al

By removing a specific gene in the tomatoes, researchers have made the stomata partially close during the hottest hours of the day. This saves water while still allowing the plants to absorb enough carbon dioxide.

[This is an excerpt. Read the original post here](#)