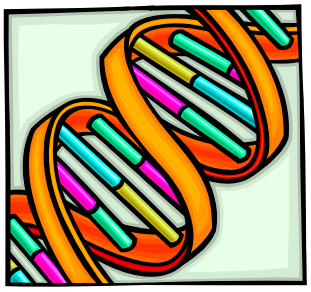
Genetic Engineering Update Ixtapa Edition (Translated From Spanish)



Corn Developed to Resist Weevils

Food Woes

Is genetically engineered food coming to Ixtapa? Is this a blessing or a curse?

Genetically engineered food was developed to improve food production.

Recently, a new strain of corn was developed, which is resistant to the nefarious corn weevil of Mexico.

The corn weevil has destroyed this year's crop, leaving many people hungry and out of work.

Weevil-resistant corn would assure a steady food supply for people of Ixtapa, the district worst hit by the weevil.

Immediate Help. Future Disaster?

Genmaize, the company that developed Wvbgone Corn, has agreed to provide seed at a discounted price as it becomes available.

Issues Abound

The newly created corn includes proteins from daffodils and a bacterium, substances not normally eaten by people.

What are the possible effects?

Will allergies be triggered when people eat proteins from new sources?

It's also wondered if Wvbgone Corn may disturb other organisms. Scientists do not yet agree whether monarch butterfly larvae have been damaged by pollen from genetically engineered corn.

Others ask if it is possible that genes introduced for insect and disease resistance might create superbugs or superweeds. Our district council must get to the root of the problem.

What's Next for the People of Ixtapa?

Help Is on Its Way

A group of geneticists have agreed to look at the problem and make recommendations to the district council of Ixtapa.

Their findings will be reported here, *so watch this space!*

— *What is genetic engineering?*

Changing a genetic material to create a modified organism.

How is it done?

1. Gene Splicing: Inserting a protein into a bacterium which then changes an organism.

2. Cloning: Removing a nucleus from an egg and inserting a new one with different genetic information.