

## GOLDEN RICE DESERVES A CHANCE

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*Golden Rice is a genetically modified crop which was developed about 2 decades ago. It contains beta carotene in its endosperm which is a Provitamin A carotenoid. Golden Rice was featured on the cover page of Time magazine in 2000 as a potential lifesaving crop. But faced with heavy criticism by GMO opponents and over regulatory conditions, it is still struggling to reach the poor for whom it was developed. Till now, Golden Rice has received regulatory approval for use as food in only four countries namely USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. But these nations do not actually need Golden Rice production, for they are not plagued by the vitamin A deficiency problem. If approved in countries where it is actually needed, this promising crop can save millions of lives and combat night blindness.*

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