

Main Arguments for Golden Rice Addressing Nutritional Deficiencies: Proponents argued that Golden Rice could save millions of lives by providing a sustainable source of Vitamin A to populations dependent on rice as a staple food. Balancing Innovation and Regulation: Rigorous testing and regulatory oversight were crucial in building confidence in Golden Rice as a safe and effective intervention. Dependency on GM Crops: There was resistance to introducing GMOs in countries where skepticism about genetic engineering was high, fueled by distrust of multinational corporations and concerns over food sovereignty. Ethical and Economic Issues: Opponents, including some NGOs, criticized the role of large biotech companies in promoting GM crops, fearing that this might prioritize profits over farmers' rights. Resolution of the Issue Scientific Advancements: Subsequent iterations of Golden Rice addressed early technical issues, significantly increasing beta-carotene content. Collaborative Solutions Work Best: Partnerships between governments, NGOs, scientists, and local communities were vital to overcoming resistance and ensuring successful implementation. Humanitarian Benefits: It was seen as a tool to combat malnutrition in regions with limited access to diverse diets or healthcare. Insufficient Beta-Carotene: Early versions of Golden Rice produced low levels of beta-carotene, leading critics to claim it was an inadequate solution to VAD. The Role of Misinformation: Public resistance often stemmed from misinformation about GMOs.