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Who is to blame for the failure of GM golden rice?

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The recent Nobel laureates' open [letter](#) to the United Nations and governments around the world, accusing Greenpeace of a "crime against humanity" for opposing genetically modified (GMO) golden rice, elicited a [reaction from scientists Angelika Hilbeck and Hans Herren](#) (Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich). They point out that the letter does not recognise the facts about golden rice and makes many scientifically unsubstantiated claims. Among the Nobel laureate signatories, there seems to be hardly anybody with a solid scientific track record in agriculture, food production, development, or the socio-ecological and political causes of poverty and hunger. Others with notable competence – at least in the economic and social domains of development, poverty, and hunger – are not among the signatories. Hilbeck and Herren present the missing facts.

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