Zika GMO Mosquito



Michael Olson, Author & Urban Farming Agriculturalist

# **GMO MOSQUITO TO FIGHT ZIKA**

This Poll is closed

## Should we release GMO mosquitoes to fight Zika?

No Yes

\*

50% 50%

#### Guest: University of California Assistant Professor Omar Akbari

Though small, and seemingly insignificant, mosquitos are among the most dangerous creatures on earth. They are the



Michael Olson Food Chain Radio - Zika Virus and the GMO Mosquito

primary vectors for major diseases such as dengue fever, malaria, yellow fever and Zika, which infect hundreds of millions of people throughout the world, killing millions every year. Over half the world's population is vulnerable to mosquito-born illness.

Though the Zika virus was first discovered in 1947, it was never considered much of a threat, as the symptoms included a mild fever, skin rashes, muscle and joint pain and conjunctivitis. But in 2015 the disease popped up Brazil, where it was blamed for causing the unborn to

developed malformed brains.

Thanks to world trade, Zika is rapidly being spread throughout the world by its mosquito vector. Many of the traditional ways of fighting mosquitoes are losing their effectiveness, as the mosquitoes develop immunity to them. And so we ask...

Leave a comment below: Should we release GMO mosquitos to fight Zika?

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#### **One Comment**

1. <u>Ken Foster</u> says: April 7, 2016 at 3:17 pm

The information at the links below is relevant to your topic. I hope you will consider sharing this with your audience.

https://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/releases/2016/O1/survey-public-supports-use-of-gmo-mosquitoes-to-fight-zika-virus.html

https://extension.purdue.edu/Pages/article.aspx?intItemID=14074

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