



transgenic chestnuts

Posted by [Michael Phillips](#)

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[Michael Phillips](#)
[transgenic chestnuts](#)

March 14, 2017 12:56AM

Scores of American chestnut seedlings growing in upstate New York are the vanguard in the restoration of what was once the most dominant tree in the eastern forests. The trees carry one gene, added by scientists, that makes them capable of withstanding the invasive blight that wiped out billions of their ancestors a century ago.

So begins a [Science Daily article](#) outlining the differences between a quicker GMO solution to chestnut blight versus carefully back-crossing American chestnuts with Asian genetics. Many questions can be asked. Let's start here: Is genetically altering a "wild tree" to enhance its survival any different from modifying the apple? (I thought about adding 'to keep it from browning' but sometimes silliness is better kept out of a deeper conversation.) Have at it y'all!

[Lost Nation Orchard](#)

Zone 4b in New Hampshire

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[Chris Vlitas](#)

[Re: transgenic chestnuts](#)

March 14, 2017 03:06PM

Edited for brevity

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Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 09/30/2022 05:44PM by Chris Vlitas.

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[Alan Surprenant](#)

[Re: transgenic chestnuts](#)

April 03, 2017 12:22PM

I've been trusting my gut feelings on any and all GMO alterations. Not so good. Let's work with the plant material we already have- plenty of options (and the aren't owned by anyone individual or company). Rudolf Steiner once said "mankind has much developed much knowledge and so little wisdom for using that knowledge"

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[Nick Segner](#)

[Re: transgenic chestnuts](#)

May 08, 2017 09:52PM

I agree with the above assessments, particularly Alan's Steiner quote.

Registered: 10 years ago

Posts: 22

Registered: 9 years ago

Posts: 49

I've been reading Holistic Resource Management by Allan Savory the past couple weeks. If you plot both the increase in knowledge and deterioration of the health of our natural systems on a graph together (as he has done in Fig 4.1), you see a direct correlation. I can't see this trend reversing without adopting a holistic approach.

Genetic modification is an allopathic approach and not a holistic approach.

Nick Segner

Wildcat Valley Farm

Zone 8b

Olympic Peninsula Rainshadow

Port Angeles, Washington

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