

Podcast: Eye drops for cataracts and high-starch, low-methane rice

Nature's weekly audio round-up.

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Millions of people around the world have cataracts, a clouding of the lens of the eye that [can cause blindness](#). Surgery can treat the condition by replacing the lens, but the procedure carries risks and is not accessible to all patients. Researchers led by geneticist Kang Zhang have developed a simple eye drop that clears cataracts in dogs, and they hope to trial it in humans soon¹. Also on the show, a strain of rice that could help to reduce methane emissions from the crop, and make it more productive, potentially feeding more people². And we hear from reporter Elie Dolgin about [his News Feature](#) on how RNA's structure affects its function in cells.

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References

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1. Zhao, L. *et al.* *Nature* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature14650> (2015).
 2. Su, J. *et al.* *Nature* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature14673> (2015).