



75. Pamela Ronald
University of California

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B F A S T C O M P A N Y
S T A F F

1 M I N R U E T A E D

[Ronald Laboratory](#)

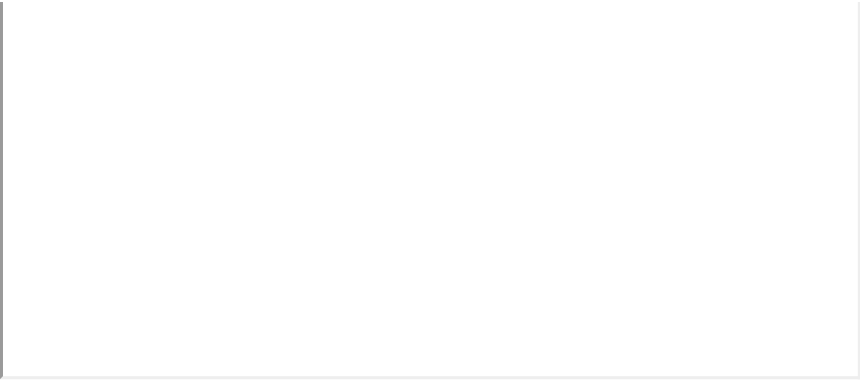
Pamela Ronald has always felt at home around plants—nurturing them, modifying them, propagating them—so it seems natural that she is developing new crop varieties. One of her breakthroughs: a strain of flood-resistant rice created through precision breeding, not genetic engineering. The new rice has increased yields three- to fivefold under flood conditions in countries including Bangladesh, India, and Indonesia. The question to ask about a new crop, she says, “is not ‘Is it GM?’ but ‘Can it help food security in less developed nations?’”

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

P R O C E S S

In this presentation for The Long Now Foundation, Ronald looks at radical changes to the agriculture system over the last 10,000 years.





INSPIRATION

Diet for a Small Planet by Frances Moore Lappé. I became a vegetarian when I was 16 after reading that book.

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