

# Science and public - In class exercise

Methods of Scientific Working for Crop Science

January 21, 2025

## **TED Talk by Pamela Ronald**

Pamela Ronald is a leading plant geneticist at the University of California, Davis. She is married to an organic farmer and together with him she wrote the book *Tomorrows Table - Organic Farming, Genetics, and the Future of Food*, Oxford University Press (2018)

We discuss the following questions in class:

1. What is her motivation to talk about her topic?
2. What is the key message of her talk?
3. Does present the critical points (risks vs. benefits) in a balanced manner?
4. Does she appropriately and convincingly present individual research success stories to make the general point that genetic engineering is a useful breeding technique?
5. Does she also make an ethical argument? Do you think it is appropriate?

## **References**