El Tonto Más Débil

The Remitroot plants which were genetically mutated in Don Miguel El Sabio's particle accelerator became increasingly intelligent. It was thought necessary to keep them under lock and key with their existence on a 'need to know' basis only. Loco Paco was the weakest link however and contacted a national newspaper hoping to sell the story. As the reporter, José Patraña interviewed him it became obvious that Paco didn't have all his paddles in the water. His credibility came into question when he asked for a saucer of milk for his imaginary five foot rodent. It was then Paco was thrown bodily from the newspaper's offices.

The Don, who mutated the Remitroot and Antonio Poyato who originally grew them nurtured their crop in secret. The plants showed a remarkable ability to learn. Soon it became obvious that they were intellectually superior to any of the villagers. Poyato and the Don were both thinkers and decided to make as much capital from the plants as possible. They would appear on a game show.

The first problem would be to make the Remitroot plants look like contestants. The British Conservative Party has been passing plant-life off as human for years, so it can't be that difficult. 'El Tonto Más Débil' is a game show hosted by a totally unpleasant and odious individual, Anna La Desagradable. This offensive woman asks the game's questions while insulting the contestants, their relatives and everything they hold dear. Poyato thought she might be plant-life herself, which would certainly explain a lot.

Poyato, the Don and two Remitroot plants faced a team drawn from the Over Eighties' Limbo Dancing and Bungee Jumping Club of Níjar. As the game progressed the Plants nodded the right answers and points piled up in favour of the Alquerian team.

The heat of the studio lights began to have an adverse effect on the Remitroot plants. They started to wilt and droop. Their nodding became erratic and they started to get

answers wrong. Anna was in high glee and insulted the Plants with gusto. The Plants became despondent and a despondent Remitroot plant is something one steers well clear of. They shed their leaves, by design or because of the heat it was impossible to say. The leaves fell in the communal drinking water cooler.

Now, Remitroot is a very effective aphrodisiac. As the water was consumed so the show degenerated into a heap of writhing bodies. The programme couldn’t be broadcast in its usual time-slot, but appeared at two in the morning with the new title of 'Red Hot Anna'.

If it were possible for plants to have smug expressions then these certainly did.