



Action of the Week: Stop Monsanto!

Press the Department of Justice to Break Monsanto's Monopoly:

After years of complaints from the OCA and our allies, the Department of Justice is investigating how big biotech and food corporations, including Monsanto, are monopolizing and controlling our seeds, food and farming—and they want to hear from *you*. The Obama Administration is specifically seeking comments and information about how corporate control of the food system affects average Americans. If you're concerned that Monsanto and Big Food corporations have inordinate and dangerous power over where your food comes from and how it's produced, tell the Justice Department! Your comments could help rein in Monsanto and other corporate criminals.

Take Action: organicconsumers.org/monlink.cfm



Stop Obama's Monsanto Men

Rajiv Shah: The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is one of Monsanto's key non-profit partners, forcing hazardous GMOS on farmers and consumers worldwide. The multi-billion dollar Gates Foundation is helping Monsanto infiltrate markets in poor African countries by fraudulently claiming that GMOS can feed the world and reduce rural poverty with high-priced GM seed varieties that supposedly, but in fact do not, increase yields, resist drought, or improve nutrition.

President Obama has appointed biotech cheerleader Rajiv Shah, who worked as the Gates Foundation's agriculture programs director, to be the USDA's Under Secretary for Research, and has put Roger Beachy, Director of the Monsanto-funded Danforth Plant Science Center, directly under Shah in charge of the new National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Now Shah, with only six months of government experience, has been appointed by Obama to lead the US Agency for International Development (USAID), handing over billions in taxpayer dollars to Food Inc., Monsanto, et al. Tell the Senate to vote **No** on Shah: www.is.gd/5szRI

Islam Siddiqui: The notorious lobbying group CropLife, which represents pesticide and genetic engineering companies, including Monsanto, is the PR front group that infamously chided the First Lady for planting a pesticide-free organic garden at the White House. Islam Siddiqui, nominated by President Obama to be the US Trade Representative's Chief Agriculture Negotiator, is CropLife's Vice-President. Before CropLife, Siddiqui was a chemical farming and biotech booster in Clinton's USDA. It was his bright idea in 1997-98—rejected by the organic community—to allow GMOS, sewage sludge and irradiation in organic production. (The OCA spearheaded this successful campaign to save organic standards.) We should also mention that Siddiqui was an Obama campaign donor and fundraiser. Tell the Senate to vote **No** on Siddiqui: www.is.gd/5szRI

Protest Monsanto Propaganda on NPR

If you listen to National Public Radio, you've probably heard Monsanto's "Produce More, Conserve More" greenwashing commercials. Monsanto's propaganda team claim their Frankencrops and seeds are a form of "sustainable agriculture" that will help farmers "squeeze more out of a drop of water." American Public Media, the producer of NPR's *Marketplace*, gets companies like Monsanto to support their programming by offering to let them "leverage their reputation."

Monsanto's green claims are a dangerous lie. GMO crops do not produce more. They contain dangerous pesticide residues, and use massive amounts of toxic and climate-destabilizing chemical fertilizers. GMO crops are not drought-resistant. Organic crops out-produce chemical and GMO crops by 70% under drought (or heavy rain) conditions. Non-organic chemical, water, energy-intensive, and GMO crops are a recipe for disaster in this era of unpredictable weather.

Tell American Public Media to stop airing Monsanto's lies: www.is.gd/5sA0a

Monsanto Wins the Angry Mermaid Award

Climate activists have hung Copenhagen's *Angry Mermaid Award* around Monsanto's neck for being a "corporate climate criminal." Monsanto, perhaps the world's most hated corporation, is a major driving force in polluting the atmosphere with billions of pounds of climate-destabilizing greenhouse gases (CO₂, methane, and nitrous oxide), while at the same time offering false high-tech solutions—profiting off environmental destruction, a highly subsidized and unhealthy food chain, and rural poverty. Even though food security experts agree that mitigating and adapting to climate change is going to require a return to non-GMO organic agriculture, Monsanto has been successful in promoting itself in the US and among world leaders as a so-called no-till "sustainable agriculture" company helping farmers survive climate change by selling

them GE seeds that resist drought and flood.

In fact, Monsanto has never commercialized a single drought or flood-resistant crop. Monsanto's seeds are resistant to one thing: Monsanto's toxic (and increasingly expensive) herbicide RoundUp, which farmers are forced to buy, (and consumers are forced to consume) in ever-larger quantities. Monsanto's goal is to patent living organisms, monopolize seeds, outlaw seed saving, and economically and legally enslave farmers, destroying the "competition:" the seed and crop biodiversity that farmers have painstakingly cultivated over the last 10,000 years. Life on Earth will become Life in Hell if Monsanto is allowed to tighten its stranglehold over our seeds and food.

We need to shift from chemical and energy-intensive industrial agriculture to organic farming practices on the world's 12 billion acres of farm, pasture, and rangeland and at the same time drastically reduce the 44-52% of greenhouse gases directly or indirectly caused by industrial agriculture: CO₂ from burning fossil fuels, cutting down rainforests and destroying soil fertility; methane from animal factory farms and garbage dumps; and nitrous oxide from billions of pounds of nitrate-based fertilizer. We need to break Monsanto's grip and support the world's remaining 1.5 billion traditional and organic small farmers—the peasants and family farmers who produce 75% of the world's food and fiber and steward what's left of the world's crop and animal biodiversity. www.is.gd/5sA2z

Health Hazards of Monsanto's Frankenfoods

Three Major GMOS Approved for Food and Feed Found Unsafe

In a comprehensive study of the health effects of three of Monsanto's GMO corn varieties, researchers from CRIIGEN and the French universities of Caen and Rouen have highlighted a number of new side effects linked with their consumption. Their study of Monsanto's 90-day feeding trials clearly underlines adverse impacts on kidneys and liver, the dietary detoxifying organs, as well as damage to the heart, adrenal glands, spleen and haematopoietic system. Their research was made possible when the European government obtained Monsanto's raw data and made it publicly available for scrutiny and counter-evaluation for the first time.

The researchers have concluded that all three GMOS studied contain novel pesticide residues that will be present in food and feed, and may pose grave health risks to those consuming them. They have called for immediate prohibition on the import and cultivation of these GMOS and have strongly recommended additional long-term and multi-generational animal feeding studies on at least three species to provide scientifically valid data on the acute and chronic toxic effects of GM crops, feed and foods. www.is.gd/5sA6f

