Ben & Jerry’s Peace, Love... and Monsanto’s Weedkiller

Ben & Jerry’s, the $1.3-billion subsidiary of Unilever, has made a fortune off its claims of “social responsibility” and “respect for the Earth.” The iconic brand also brags that its ice cream is “All Natural” and “GMO-Free.”

But when Organic Consumers Association had an independent lab test 11 samples of B&J’s ice cream, 10 were found to be contaminated with glyphosate, the key ingredient in Monsanto’s Roundup weedkiller.

No, a ‘little’ glyphosate isn’t safe

The herbicide contamination detected in B&J’s falls below the levels the FDA claims are “safe.” But the FDA’s “allowable limits” of weedkiller residues in your ice cream ignore the latest research.

Three recent peer-reviewed studies link very low levels of glyphosate—lower than what was found in B&J’s ice cream—to fatty liver disease, cancer tumors, kidney damage and more.

Scientists who reviewed our test results say one 8-oz. serving of B&J’s Chocolate Fudge Brownie contains enough glyphosate to give a 75-lb. child 120% of the daily dose required to trigger fatty liver disease. For a 150-lb. adult, less than a pint would do the same.

Nothing “safe” or “all natural” about that!

Support organic brands! OCA also tested four national organic ice cream brands. Three—Alden’s, Julie’s Organic, and Three Twins—showed no traces of glyphosate or its metabolites. (Whole Foods 365 Organic vanilla contained a trace of AMPA, a metabolite of glyphosate).

Buy organic! And ask your natural food stores to #DumpBenandJerrys!

Sign the petition to B&J’s: No Roundup Ready Ice Cream. Go 100% Organic: orgcns.org/2jlL7fc Text ‘dirtydairy’ to 97779 to sign the petition

Organic Consumers Association
6771 South Silver Hill Drive
Finland MN 55603 · 218-226-4164
organicconsumers.org
facebook.com/organicconsumers
twitter.com/OrganicConsumer

Puting human health at risk by selling glyphosate-contaminated ice cream is bad enough. But that’s only part of B&J’s toxic #DirtyDairy story.

Vermont taxpayers are stuck with a $2-billion tab for cleaning up the state’s lakes and rivers, polluted by chemical fertilizers and toxic pesticides—glyphosate, atrazine, metolachlor—used to grow the GMO corn that Vermont dairy farmers feed their cows.

By refusing to switch to organic milk and ingredients, Ben & Jerry’s:

Bankrupts family farmers. Since B&J began 1978, over 2,000 dairy-farm families in Vermont have been forced off the land. The same trend holds nationwide. By helping farmers’ transition to organic, and paying a fair price for organic milk, B&J’s could help restore family farms and rural economies.

Pollutes waterways. Vermont’s Lake Champlain is becoming too polluted for swimming—which means it’s toxic to fish and wildlife, too. State officials say pollution from the dairy farms like those supplying B&J’s has caused at least half of the damage.

Abuses animals. The average life span of a pastured 100% grass-fed organic dairy cow is about 15-20 years. GMO grain-fed dairy cows, confined in barns, are usually slaughtered before the age of 6. Most have suffered from painful and preventable udder infections (mastitis), respiratory problems, hoof infections, leg injuries and diarrhea.

Exploits farmworkers. B&J claims it’s working with its farmers to guarantee fair wages and working conditions for dairy farmworkers. So far, the company has not fulfilled that promise.

Contributes to global warming. More than 92,000 acres of Vermont farmland is planted in corn grown for animal feed. 96% of that corn is GMO. GMO monocultures destroy the soil’s ability to draw down and sequester carbon.