



Just Said NO!

Monsanto's past is finally catching up with it. And that's making the Biotech Bully's future look not so good—especially in Europe. On November 9, the EU Parliament again failed to agree on whether to allow European farmers to spray glyphosate, the key active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup weedkiller, for another five years. The chemical's license expires on December 15 (though there's an additional 18-month grace period).



This is great news—made even sweeter by this media report which prominently features our findings, announced October 10 in Brussels, that Ben & Jerry's ice cream in four EU countries tested positive for glyphosate.

Monsanto has come under fire not just for the impact its GMOs and poisonous chemicals are having on human health and the environment, but also for knowing glyphosate causes cancer—but hiding it.

From the Monsanto Tribunal, to the Monsanto Papers, to the millions of dedicated people in all corners of the world working tirelessly to rid the world of Roundup—today's vote brings hope. This may not be the end of the battle—but it signals that no matter how long it takes, we're not giving up. Fourteen countries voted in favor of the renewal, nine voted against, and five, including Germany, abstained from voting. What's next? An appeal committee could be asked to intervene. Or, the European Commission could draft a new proposal. (France, which voted against the five-year renewal, said it would support a three-year renewal). orgcns.org/2zJDbuM

Done with Doom

Last week the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) rejected the pleas of organic activists, farmers and many businesses to “keep the soil in organic” by voting to allow growers of hydroponic vegetables to label their produce “organic.” The NOSB's vote did little to shore up consumer faith in the USDA Organic label, especially after well-publicized news reports earlier this year accusing a few high-profile organic brands of giving “organic” a bad name by skirting the rules. And it had some industry pioneers so angry and disheartened, that according to the Washington Post they were even “threatening to leave the program they helped create.”

The OCA supported the “Keep the soil in organic” campaign. We're disappointed in the NOSB's decision, another sign of Big Organic's (negative) influence over organic standards. But rather than mourn the demise of organic standards, or fruitlessly complain about how the USDA Organic label is being undermined by a few corrupt corporations, we've joined the growing number of organic advocates, both in the U.S. and abroad, who understand that the future of organic is regenerative.

And here's what we're doing about it: orgcns.org/2zteTV3

Risky Business

This month, up to 400 Midwest grocery stores started quietly testing packages of sliced “Arctic Apple” GMO apples. Intrexon, the company marketing the apples, won't tell us which stores are selling them. The company also won't label its apples “GMO” because, according to Intrexon's CEO: “We didn't want put ‘GMO’ and a skull and crossbones on the package.” The Arctic Apple uses a risky, untested technology that many scientists worry may have unintended, negative consequences—for our health, and the environment.

The only way to show companies like Intrexon that we don't want their GMO apples is to not buy them—and convince grocery stores to not sell them. But first, we have to find them. We need your help! orgcns.org/2zrVBiN

Down in the Dumps?

Yesterday, one of our supporters reported back that his local food co-op recently dropped Ben & Jerry's, and that our #DumpBenandJerrys campaign played a big role in the store's decision. This is how we move Unilever-owned Ben & Jerry's toward organic. But we need your help.

Many local natural health food stores and co-ops, stores that cater to conscious consumers like you, carry only organic ice cream. But some of them also carry Ben & Jerry's. Not only that, they display Ben & Jerry's ice cream right next to the organic brands they sell—a move that misleads consumers into thinking Ben & Jerry's ice cream is organic, too.

We need your help to get stores all over the country to #DumpBenandJerrys. If your store sells Ben & Jerry's, take this letter to the store manager and ask him or her to stop selling Ben & Jerry's. After your visit, please let us know what happened.

Ben & Jerry's sales are melting—and dragging down Unilever's profits. Your calls to Ben & Jerry's, your leafleting in front of Ben & Jerry's Scoop Shops and other food stores that carry Ben & Jerry's are paying off. But we need to keep the pressure on! orgcns.org/2zKcEO9

The ‘Bigfoots’ of Climate

Who has the biggest greenhouse gas footprint of all? The top 20 meat and dairy companies, which emitted more greenhouse gases in 2016 than all of Germany, Europe's biggest climate polluter, according to a report issued this week at the COP 23 climate summit in Bonn, Germany. Beef and poultry giants JBS, Cargill and Tyson spewed more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere last year than all of France. Should you stop eating meat? That's a personal choice. Health experts say we should all eat less meat and more plants. When we do eat meat, we should choose organic pasture-raised poultry and 100% grassfed beef.

Eating less meat, and choosing organic pasture-raised and 100% grassfed, is also better for the planet. Regeneration International's Oliver Gardiner, caught up with Shefali Sharma from the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy at COP23.

Watch: orgcns.org/2zKkFT3

Support Regeneration International, an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit partially funded by OCA: orgcns.org/1knvezW

‘Sooner Than We Imagine’

While our Climate-Denier-in-Chief bellows on about promoting fossil fuels and nuclear energy, the scientists of the world have issued yet another warning: Climate change could force more than a billion people to flee their homes, and lead to a massive public health crisis. The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change, an international research collaboration, recently issued its 2017 report. Lancet co-chair Prof. Hugh Montgomery told the *Independent*: “We are only just beginning to feel the impacts of climate change. Any small amount of resilience we may take for granted today will be stretched to breaking point sooner than we may imagine.”

We have a solution for the multiple global crises we face: regenerative agriculture and land-use practices, such as forestry management. But we all—farmers, corporations, policymakers and consumers—have to participate. orgcns.org/2zGdoVU