



Out of Control

On October 9, we held a joint press conference at the EU Parliament in Brussels to announce that Ben & Jerry's ice cream in four EU countries was contaminated with glyphosate. The next day, Carey Gillam, journalist and research director for us Right to Know, delivered expert testimony at an EU Parliament hearing on the "science" surrounding glyphosate, the active ingredient in Monsanto's popular Roundup weedkiller.

Gilliam didn't talk about whether or not glyphosate and Roundup are safe. Instead, her presentation ("Decades of Deception") to parliament members, focused on Monsanto's long-running secretive campaign to manipulate the scientific record, to sway public opinion and to influence regulatory assessments.

In this recent article, "Corporate-Spun Science Should Not Be Guiding Policy," Gillam lays out all ways corporate-spun science is spinning out of control—and threatening public health. (News update: This week the EU voted to allow the use of Roundup for another five years—not the 15 years Monsanto wanted, but more than the three years some countries favored. France just announced that it will move forward with a plan to ban Roundup after three years). orgcns.org/2kq7aBn

Buy Gillam's book: orgcns.org/2kovYdc

Make a tax-deductible donation: orgcns.org/1GAsoMm

The Real Story

Your local natural health food store could never get away with stocking its shelves with Monsanto's Roundup weedkiller. Toxins that cause cancer and birth defects don't belong in "health" food stores. So how do some of these stores get away with stocking Ben & Jerry's ice cream, when our testing revealed that 10 of 11 flavors contain glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup?

This week, we called 290 of the best natural health food stores and co-ops nationwide to find out which ones sell Ben & Jerry's. We're relieved to report that most—198—don't. But unfortunately, 92 (31%) do. Glyphosate contamination is just one reason not to buy Ben & Jerry's ice cream. Concern about water pollution and animal welfare are two others.

Those pretty pictures on Ben & Jerry's ice cream containers are intended to make you think the cows producing the cream for your ice cream are happily grazing on green pastures. But a visit to a real Ben & Jerry dairy in Franklin County, Vermont, paints a very different picture—one of filthy waters and cows confined to a life on cement floors.

Franklin County is home to more than 36,000 cows that spend about five years pumping out milk for Ben & Jerry's before they're slaughtered for meat. Their waste flows into Lake Carmi. Once known as the Silver Lake recreation area, it had to be closed for three months this year because of toxic algal blooms caused by dairy farm runoff.

If the 92 natural health food stores that sell Ben & Jerry's knew the real story, would they still carry Ben & Jerry's weedkiller-contaminated ice cream? We've won significant concessions from Ben & Jerry's. But we need to keep the pressure on!

Find out if the store near you sells Ben & Jerry's: orgcns.org/2AsOJ5z

After your store visit, please fill out this questionnaire:

orgcns.org/2iE127X

Make a tax-deductible donation to support our 'Ben & Jerry's: Go Organic!' campaign: orgcns.org/2ujbkha

Deadline Extended

Last 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 to 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! Join the GMO apple scavenger hunt, November 7 –

December 4, to locate the stores selling GMO apples. Sign up and we'll send instructions, talking points, etc: orgcns.org/2zrVBiN



Monsanto's Dark Day

Monsanto didn't have a lot to be grateful for over the Thanksgiving weekend, at least not in Mexico.

Mexico's agriculture sanitation authority, SENASICA, revoked the Biotech giant's permit to commercialize genetically modified soy in seven Mexican states. To make matters worse, a Mexican court upheld a ban on the planting of GMO corn in Mexico.

The GMO soy permit was revoked because transgenic Monsanto soy was detected in areas where cultivation was not authorized. The revocation applies to the states of Campeche, Chiapas, Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosí, Quintana Roo, Veracruz and Yucatán.

The ruling to keep the GMO corn ban in place is the latest chapter of a more than four-year old battle to protect Mexico's hundreds of native corn varieties.

The latest ruling kicks the decision up to the Supreme Court. OCA's Mexico City-based counterpart, Asociación de Consumidores Orgánicos, will continue to fight for a permanent ban on GMO corn in Mexico, in order to protect integrity and diversity of Mexico's corn and its connection with the country's entire culture. orgcns.org/2kh4OEV

Donate: orgcns.org/1Re79s7

Sugar-Coated 'Facts'

An old study is shining new light on the truth about what sugar does to your health —and the lengths to which the sugar industry has gone to keep consumers in the dark for decades. Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, uncovered and recently released historical documents revealing that Big Sugar covered up research linking a diet high in sugar to high blood cholesterol levels and cancer in rats.

According a report in the journal PLOS Biology, in the 1960s, the Sugar Research Foundation (known today as the Sugar Association), funded animal research that studied the effects of sugar consumption on cardiovascular health—and then suppressed the research. orgcns.org/2knT3Nb

Stanton A. Glantz, one of the study's co-authors, said: "This is continuing to build the case that the sugar industry has a long history of manipulating science." orgcns.org/2knmMWD