

From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Mon, 16 Feb 2015 13:54:00 EST
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: Points Against Labeling

Hi Folks,

I have to assemble a brief document on why labeling should not be allowed. What am I missing?

1. FDA system for labeling potentially harmful ingredients already exists.
2. Foods are identical or near identical, as labels would describe a process
3. Cost- execution. Testing in the supply chain will be expensive
4. Cost- enforcement. Establishing new state agencies to monitor, test, label, enforce, adjudicate and penalize will be expensive
5. No scientific evidence necessitating a label.
6. Poorly written laws that include non recombinant DNA methods.
7. Poorly written laws that provide wide exceptions
8. Farmers will simply continue to grow for cattle feed and fuel, less in human market, higher grocery costs.
9. Misleading customers that there is something inadequate or dangerous about food, in opposition to evidence.
10. Provides a target for nefarious information campaigns to vilify good food.

Any other suggestions welcome. I have to change some thinking on the issue tomorrow.

Kevin

From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Mon, 17 Feb 2014 11:48:00 EST
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: List of Routine FDA tests

Hi Everybody,

I have a public discussion pending on Friday and just got off the conference call where I got some hints as to the talking points.

There is repeated discussion of "no testing required". Same old, same old.

I guess what I need are some hard references to the actual tests performed on 2-3 transgenic releases. I know I've seen this before and it was a rather extensive battery.

Thanks.

Kevin

From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Fri, 21 Mar 2014 13:22:00 EDT
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: RE: Chatter: GMO myths and truths

It never was completed. There is a huge amount of time in the document, there still is a long way to go. We've had many writers agree to produce and just not finish assignments, and I've been a bad editor/compiler. I've spent a huge amount of time on this and it needs to be finished, but I won't have a free moment until April.

Trying to keep the lights on in the lab nowadays, and all attention has been in grants/publishing.

kevin

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** V Moses
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 3:33 PM
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com
Subject: Re: Chatter: GMO myths and truths

Alas not. It got halfway done and with various promises for completion but none were fulfilled.

It's perhaps not quite dead but showing distinct signs of a last gasp.

Vivian

=====



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E-mail: V.Moses@qmul.ac.uk

From: Cami Ryan <cam.ryan@usask.ca>
Reply-To: "AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>
Date: Monday, 17 March 2014 17:54
To: "AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>
Subject: Chatter: GMO myths and truths [1 Attachment]

Did anyone pull together a response to the document GMO Myths and Truths? I checked through the ABC archives and could find nothing. But I did that there were discussions...

Cami

--

Camille (Cami) D. Ryan, [B.Comm., Ph.D.](mailto:cam.ryan@usask.ca)
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 'Ag, Science, Tech & Society'
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From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Fri, 18 Apr 2014 06:44:13 EDT
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,
CC:
Subject: ... as toxic as ...

There was a nice graphic that Prakash posted on GMO LOL that had roundup next to a dozen other household compounds in terms of toxicity... can someone repost a hi-red version?

Thanks.

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta
Associate Professor and Chair
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Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>
Twitter @kevinfolta

From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Sat, 23 Aug 2014 22:30:06 EDT
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: RE: Chatter: Kevin Folta's excellent answers on Reddit AMA

Prakash,

When the Reddit moderators stopped unproductive accusations and comments, they established their own Reddit thread, "Kevin Folta Monsanto Cheerleader / "Scientist" "

I was happy to crawl into that viper's den as well. Sometimes a soft voice and presentation of evidence is a compelling contrast to those on the fence, so I was happy to poop that party.

Kevin

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"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>
Twitter @kevinfolta

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Saturday, August 23, 2014 10:27 PM
To: AgBioChatter
Subject: Chatter: Kevin Folta's excellent answers on Reddit AMA

Reddit is a very popular site among young people especially the geeky types and they feature "Ask Me Anything" by notable personalities on a range of topics. Last week our own Kevin Folta faced the crowd (second time as I know) and did a superb job in answering so many questions thrown at him. Clearly the Reddit crowd is far more smarter and better informed than most other online venues

http://www.reddit.com/r/science/comments/2dzo7o/science_ama_series_ask_me_anything_about/

Posted by: "Prakash, Channapatna S." <prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu>

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From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Fri, 05 Sep 2014 15:47:00 EDT
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: RE: Chatter: "This is the science you need to know..."

October 11... Does anyone want to go to this conference and then hold a free science-based discussion kegger in the same area afterwards?

Seriously--- it can be done.

kevin

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 04, 2014 9:37 PM
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com
Subject: RE: Chatter: "This is the science you need to know..."

How did this event qualify for "CE Credits for Healthcare Professionals"??
veterinary and animal science CE credits are actually overseen by an independent group who evaluates the program
Anyone know how healthcare professional CE credits are granted?

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 04, 2014 6:16 PM
To: agbiochatter@yahooogroups.com
Subject: Chatter: "This is the science you need to know..."

<http://www.seedsofdoubtconference.com/details-october-11-2014>

Posted by: Alison Van Eenennaam <alvaneennaam@ucdavis.edu>

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From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Mon, 22 Sep 2014 11:34:00 EDT
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: RE: Dr. Oz taking on GMOs and pesticides, again... with Zen Honycutt (Mom's Across America) claiming GMO and pesticides are making kids sick

I would urge everyone to spend a minute on commenting between the associated websites, facebook, etc.

The generally uninformed Oz audience does check, and there is clear crazy hysteria present. It is an opportunity to communicate scientific information. If you speak of 2,4-D, what it is, its historical use, its safety thresholds, and how this is just a repackaging as a proven product- it does resonate. I've received some good feedback.

Oz also claims "poison in your food" while showing people preparing salads and cutting tomatoes. It is a good point to show the neutral audience of the deception (or just ignorance) being employed—Enlist-ready crops will be corn, soy and cotton.

When you read the comments, farmers are jumping in. There is a strong scientific undercurrent in the sea of typical Monsantoisms. Please add to that.

kevin

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2014 11:01 AM
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Chatter: Dr. Oz taking on GMOs and pesticides, again... with Zen Honycutt (Mom's Across America) claiming GMO and pesticides are making kids sick

Dr. Oz was interviewed on WTOP radio (Washington, DC) this morning promoting upcoming episodes of his show attacking the safety of GMOs and 2,4-D pesticide use. The Oz Website now leads with a "GMOs: Get the Facts" slide show highlighting various claims (noted below). Oz repeats the same misleading claims as the activists, yet again, about GMO safety, benefits and impacts. He is promoting both a preview video from today's program and slide show on his home page – "**New GMO Pesticide Doctors Are Warning Against:** A brand-new GMO pesticide is about to hit the market **and the health of your brain could be in trouble....**" <http://www.doctoroz.com/episode/new-gmo-pesticide-doctors-are-warning-against> where he claims the EPA is about to approve a new pesticide (2,4-D Enlist Duo) for use with GMOs which is "the latest and most disturbing development to date..." referencing "agent orange toxic pesticides coming to a farm near you..."

<http://www.doctoroz.com/gallery/gmos-get-facts> (slide show)

GMOs: Get the Facts

Posted on 9/19/2014 | [Comments \(0\)](#)



Genetically modified crops have rapidly taken over the market with the promise of lower costs and less pesticide use. But as resistance to the most common pesticides has arisen, these promises have started to fall apart. Now a new pesticide, Enlist Duo, is on the verge of being approved. Here's what you need to know.



Fact 1: GMOs Have Taken Over

Genetically engineered crops have virtually taken over U.S. farms in the last 20 years, and the vast majority of crops in the U.S. are now genetically engineered. In 2011, 96% of soybeans and 72% of corn planted in the U.S. were GMOs.



Fact 2: GMOs Haven't Delivered

Genetically engineered crops were first introduced to reduce the need for herbicides. Initially they did. But since 2002, pesticide use has risen year after year and now exceeds the amounts originally used, eliminating any initial reductions and raising concerns for increased human and environmental toxicity.



Fact 3: We Now Use More Pesticides

Growers of genetically engineered crops in the U.S. now use more pesticides than are used in fields without genetically altered crops. This has occurred as other, more potent, pesticides that can be used at lower doses have replaced old chemicals and as weed resistance to Roundup has appeared.



Fact 4: Resistance on the Way

Resistance to 2,4-D, the key new agent being added to Roundup to make Dow's proposed Enlist Duo, has already been seen in several species of weeds in the U.S. Widespread resistance to Roundup arose less than 10 years after it was introduced, and the case is likely to be the same for Enlist Duo with 2,4-D.



Fact 5: Rising Costs

In spite of initial claims of lower cost production because of decreased pesticide use, genetically engineered crops now cost more to grow than non-GMOs. Genetically modified soybean fields are about 1.5 times more expensive to manage, and genetically modified corn is twice as expensive.



[No to GMOs](#)
[GMO Foods: Are They Safe?](#)
[How to Avoid GMO Foods](#)

Jay Byrne, president
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Posted by: Jay Byrne <Jay.Byrne@v-fluence.com>

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From: "'Folta, Kevin M.' kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>
Date: Fri, 30 Jan 2015 05:30:37 EST
To: "AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>
CC:
BCC:
Subject: RE: Chatter: Re: Event(s): Univ of Iowa announce speakers series including anti-GMO/pesticide stakeholders author Mark Bittman and "physicist" Vandana Shiva

The good news is that plant scientists there invited me to speak at ISU the week after Shiva. Glad they took charge to balance the crazy.

This one will take some finesse, but I'm going to try to watch her talk/grab transcripts and do something that works.

Kevin

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352-273-4812

"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>
Twitter @kevinfolta

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com> on behalf of Shanthu Shantharam sshooballi@gmail.com [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 6:29 PM
To: Chatter
Subject: Re: Chatter: Re: Event(s): Univ of Iowa announce speakers series including anti-GMO/pesticide stakeholders author Mark Bittman and "physicist" Vandana Shiva

Will someone please let me know who is in charge of inviting Vandana at ISU?

Shanthu

On Jan 27, 2015 5:57 PM, "Wayne Parrott wparrott@uga.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com> wrote:

Ms Shiva goes to Iowa State after her U of Iowa State.

Any suggestions to pass along to the ISU folks?

—
Wayne Parrott
Department of Crop & Soil Sciences, and
Institute for Plant Breeding, Genetics & Genomics
111 Riverbend Road, University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-6810
Tel: [706-542-0928](tel:706-542-0928); FAX: [706-583-8120](tel:706-583-8120)
[Lab Web Site](#)

"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil
and you're a thousand miles from the corn field." DD Eisenhower

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com> on behalf of Jay Byrne jay.byrne@v-fluence.com [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 2:41 PM
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com

Subject: Chatter: Event(s): Univ of Iowa announce speakers series including anti-GMO/pesticide stakeholders author Mark Bittman and "physicist" Vandana Shiva

<http://now.uiowa.edu/2015/01/ui-lecture-committee-announces-spring-lineup>

UI Lecture Committee announces spring lineup

Series includes noted food author, 'Shark Tank' entrepreneur

BY: ANNE BASSETT

The [University of Iowa Lecture Committee](#) will kick off its spring semester lecture series on **Monday, Feb. 2, with award-winning journalist and cookbook author Mark Bittman.**

"The Future of Food," co-sponsored by the [UI Food for Thought Theme Semester](#), will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Englert Theatre in downtown Iowa City. The event is free and open to the public, and attendees are asked to bring a canned food donation to benefit [HACAP](#) and local food pantries. The lobby will open at 6:30 p.m. to patrons for donation drop-offs, with seating starting at 7 p.m.

Bittman is an award-winning journalist and cookbook author. He has written for *The New York Times* for 30 years, where he was "The Minimalist" in the Dining pages from 1997 to 2010. He is currently a Times columnist for the Op-Ed pages (the first to editorialize about food in a major American newspaper), the Magazine, and the Food section. His books include the now-standard *Howto Cook Everything* as well as the groundbreaking *Food Matters* and *Vegan Before 6:00 (VB6)*, which debuted at No. 1 on the Times Best Seller list.

His most recently published book, *Howto Cook Everything Fast*, is also a Times Best Seller. Throughout his career, he has made hundreds of television appearances, including Showtime's Emmy-winning documentary on climate change, *Years of Living Dangerously*. His numerous professional honors include the James Beard Leadership Award and Books for a Better Life Lifetime Achievement Award.

Other upcoming lectures for the spring semester include the following:

- **Vandana Shiva, 2014-15 Distinguished Lecturer, physicist, environmental activist and feminist, will present a lecture at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, at the Englert Theatre.**
- Hip-hop journalist and author Jeff Chang will present a lecture, "Who We Be: The Colorization of America," at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 2, at The Mill in downtown Iowa City in conjunction with the Mission Creek Festival.
- Daymond John, "Shark Tank" investor, entrepreneur, and founder of the clothing company FUBU, will present a lecture, "Five S.H.A.R.K. Points: The Fundamental Keys to Business & Personal Success," at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at the Iowa Memorial Union Main Lounge. The event is presented in partnership with the [UI Tippie College of Business](#) and the [John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center](#).

For more than 30 years, the [University Lecture Committee](#) has brought some of the world's great thinkers to the UI campus. Speakers have included an impressive roster of national and international figures in science, politics, business, human rights, law, and the arts. The series is funded through student fees with additional private support.

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all UI-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to attend this reading, contact the [Center for Student Involvement and Leadership](#) in advance at [319-335-3059](tel:319-335-3059).

Contact: **Nathaniel Richmond**, UI Lecture Committee, [319-335-3698](tel:319-335-3698)

=====

Jay Byrne, president

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=====

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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Mon, 16 Feb 2015 17:52:00 EST
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: RE: Chatter: Re: Points Against Labeling

Thanks everyone, very helpful.

And am I the only one that reads Val's responses and hear his voice in my head when I read them?

Kevin

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 3:10 PM
To: AgBioChatter
Subject: Re: Chatter: Re: Points Against Labeling

All excellent points, can't wait to turn that around into a Infographics later some day for social media!

Just one more point, not sure if it was in the list somewhere - **Litigation!** Mandatory GMO labeling would open a can of worms for all kinds of litigation. was the reason even 'Natural' food folks oppose labeling laws.!

Prakash

On Mon, Feb 16, 2015 at 1:49 PM, Bruce Chassy bchassy@icloud.com [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

One point in particular bothers me when I hear it. "Printing a few extra words on a label will cost nothing" You all know that's not true. If the law requires foods containing GM ingredients to be labeled, producers have to test if their ingredients and each batch does or does not contain GM ingredients and label accordingly.

One often over-looked aspect of labeling laws is that the direct cost of testing falls most heavily on those who produce GM-free products. If you know you use GM ingredients you don't have to test.

The fun part is that many labeling initiatives have excluded organic products and others from the labeling requirement. That's right an organic product with GM ingredients would not be tested or labeled.

Why is that? Is this really truth in labeling?

Bruce

On Feb 16, 2015, at 11:28 AM, alanmc@ucr.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Kevin, you might review my expert report filed in the Vermont Act120 litigation, it is long and detailed, with a lot of material you might find helpful.

Karl's point-- that those who choose to eschew GE have Organic and non-GE alternatives already-- plays surprisingly well with the fence sitters.

Another point not often raised: Unlike all other consumer demands, those who demand mandatory process based food labels have no intention of purchasing the duly labeled products upon delivery. That is, consumers who demand, say, Kosher food (or Halal, or Organic, etc.) buy the Kosher food when it is made available in fulfillment of the consumer demand. The purchase price includes the added cost of the 'Kosher' status.

But with GE labeling, the cost of fulfillment is borne NOT by those demanding it (they will avoid purchasing the GE labeled foods), but by other consumers, those who don't care or don't want the labels. This then becomes the only example in our free market democracy where the cost of fulfillment of marketplace demands of some consumers are offloaded and paid involuntarily by others, including those who don't want labels in the first place.

Good luck
Alan

Posted by: "Prakash, Channapatna S." <prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu>

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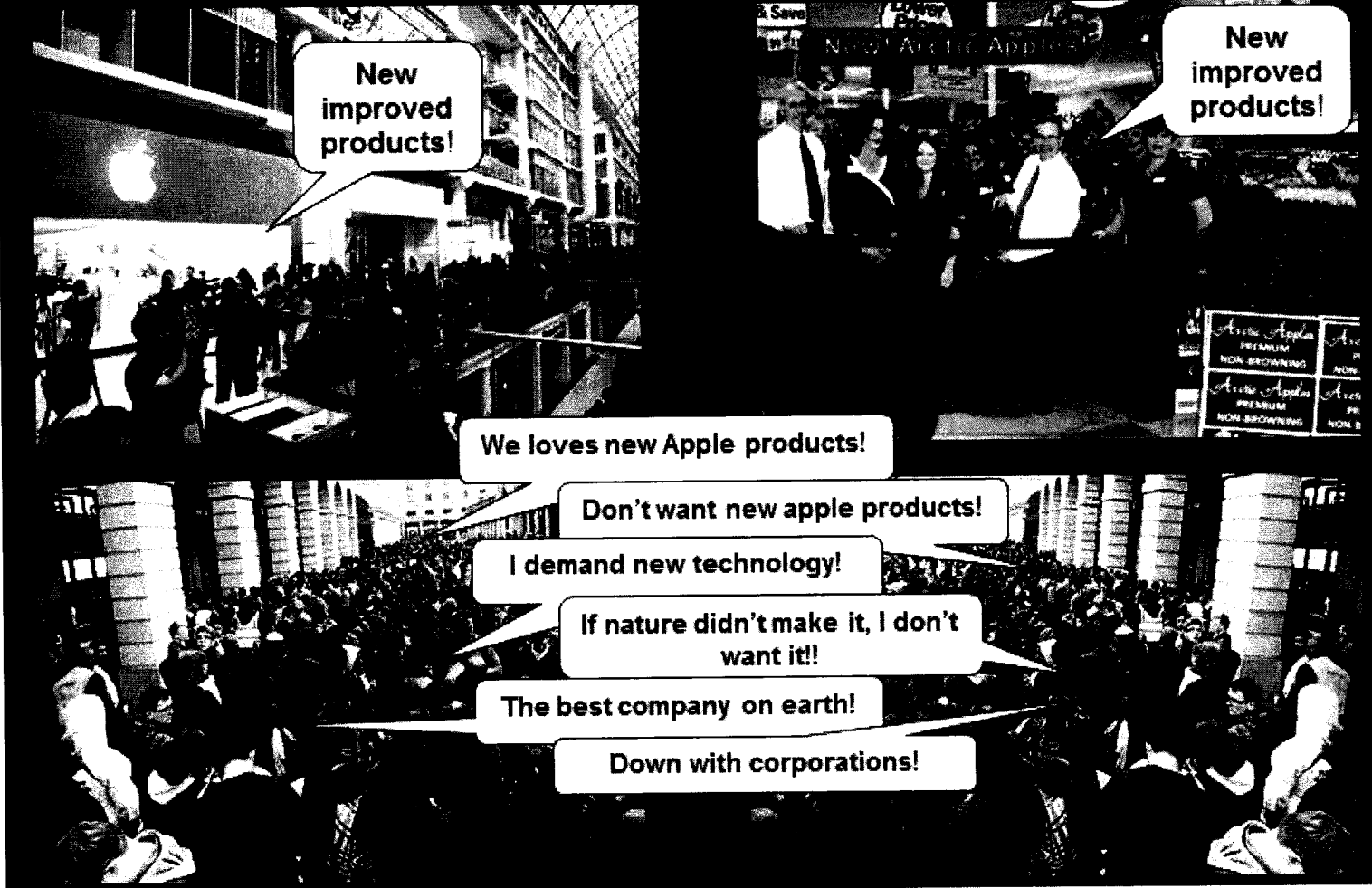
From: Folta, Kevin M.
Date: Mon, 02 Mar 2015 12:51:00 EST
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,
CC:
BCC:
Subject: Consumer sentiment on new apple technology

I hope this gives you a laugh. I'm giving a talk this week and it is my first slide.

Kevin

Irony at the Apple Store

@kevinfolta



From: "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
Date: Wed, 11 Mar 2015 17:36:05 EDT
To: "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
CC:
BCC:
Subject: Chatter: Drucker

Any useful reviews of the new Drucker book? I need a quick update to be able to field potential questions.

kf

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"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>
Twitter @kevinfolta

From: "'Folta, Kevin M.'" kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
Date: Thu, 12 Mar 2015 09:43:29 EDT
To: "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
CC:
BCC:
Subject: Chatter: Re: Anti-GMO activist rails against corporate ag at ISU | Ames Tribune

The science faculty at ISU invited me to speak in two weeks, thanks to Shiva. I've stacked a schedule there, need participation.

1. I'm running my biotech comms workshop on the 25th if anyone can make it. Send email to RSVP.
2. Come see the research seminar on the 24th- cool stuff from the lab
3. Big talk in the main auditorium on the 25th at 7 pm- will be strictly on GM, basic mechaisms, activist pushback and opportunities lost/body count.
4. On a panel (w/Druker) to deal with the b-carotene banana fallout there.

If you know anyone at Iowa State, please encourage their participation and to get the word out. Shiva trashed Iowa farmers and ISU research. Let's talk science.

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta
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"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.

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Twitter @kevinfolta

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of Chris Leaver chris.leaver@plants.ox.ac.uk
[AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:29 AM
To: Channa Prakash prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu [AgBioChatter]
Subject: Chatter: Anti-GMO activist rails against corporate ag at ISU | Ames Tribune

<http://amestrib.com/news/anti-gmo-activist-rails-against-corporate-ag-isu>

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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From: "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
Date: Mon, 06 Apr 2015 10:37:34 EDT
To: "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
CC:
BCC:
Subject: Chatter: Review of my Iowa State talk

Hi Everybody,

This article was done by an author that saw my talk and Vandana Shiva's at Iowa State. It really reminds us of why carefully-crafted communication can change hearts and minds, and the importance of being good people first, and good scientists second.

<http://feedstuffsfoodlink.com/blogs-a-civil-conversation-about-the-future-of-food-commentary-9652>

Kevin

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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From: "'Folta, Kevin M.'" kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2015 12:26:47 EDT
To: "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
CC:
BCC:
Subject: Chatter: Re: Event: GMO Free News hosts Shiva Ayyadurai and Ray Seidler at online "live stream" discussion on changed GMO safety standards for flawed FDA system

Here's the status. I'm receiving soy and corresponding isolines this week. I'm also going to solicit samples from the field for transgenic, conventional and organic soy.

If anyone can help source more samples, I'd appreciate it.

I'm going to have the formaldehyde levels measured in a for-fee core-lab service at U Minnesota, all blinded, in triplicate. I'm going to try to get donated kits for glutathione measurements and do it all with HS and undergrad students here at UF. I'm not sure how this will be paid for, but I may need to run a kickstarter, etc. Right now it will be out of pocket.

I could have data back fast. All will be public, open access, and published. I'm hoping to bring this to Science/Nature as an exhibition of why predatory publishing and no science standards are harmful, and misrepresent science for activist causes.

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta
Professor and Chairman
Horticultural Sciences Department
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and
Plant Innovation Program
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>
Twitter @kevinfolta
Podcast: www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of Jay Byrne jay.byrne@v-fluence.com [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2015 11:37 AM
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Chatter: Event: GMO Free News hosts Shiva Ayyadurai and Ray Seidler at online "live stream" discussion on changed GMO safety standards for flawed FDA system

V.A. Shiva Ayyadurai is on the road shilling his glyphosate formaldehyde claims – last week he was in Washington, DC “hosted” by Food Democracy Now, this week he’ll appear online “hosted” by GMO Free News” (neither group has the resources to host or sponsor his research or these events and it’s much more likely this is being paid for by someone like the organic food industry lobby group Organic Voices headed by Gary Hirshberg. The DC event was run by Hirshberg’s PR agency Fenton Communications, GMO Free News is a virtual organization with no defined leadership/members but appears to be supported by Dr. Bronner’s Magic Soaps’ [Lisa Bronner](#). Bronner is a key organic industry funder of the anti-GMO and mandatory labeling movements. The “GMO Free News” hosts are Kathleen Hallal – who is affiliated with Mom’s Across America, and Rachel Linden – who is affiliated with GMO-Free USA (an affiliate of MAA and linked to Henry Rowland’s GMO-Free Global campaign).

Shiva Ayyadurai is now being joined by former EPA “official” [Ray Seidler](#) (bio profile article attached).

Ayyadurai’s campaign is designed to lobby and influence the Obama administration’s plans to reevaluate and update the way GMOs are regulated, particularly going after the issue of substantial equivalence.

It appears that Kavin Senapathy and some other Chatter members have signed up for this event, perhaps some will try and pose questions about Ayyadurai’s funding, like who paid for his National Press Club event in Washington and who sponsored the costs of his study... of course this would be in addition to challenging the findings and supporting [Kevin Folta’s challenge to Ayyadurai to repeat his study in a blind test at Univ of Florida](#).

EVENT:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/811607075603329/813881672042536/>
<https://plus.google.com/events/cn2mmf8d93nmp0f54nntvuanis>

Interview with Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai

Public · Talk · Hosted by GMO Free News

Tuesday, July 28

at 9:30am in PDT

<https://plus.google.com/events/cq2m...>

LIVEStream round table discussion panel

Panel Members:
Kathleen Hallal, GMO Free News Host (West Coast)
Rachel Linden, GMO Free News Host (East Coast)
Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai, MIT Biologist
Dr. Ray Seidler, former EPA Senior Scientist

Topic of Discussion:

Systems Biology Group, International Center for Integrative Systems: GMO Soy Accumulates Formaldehyde & Disrupts Plant Metabolism, Suggests Peer-Reviewed Study, Calling For 21st Century Safety Standards

Study Concludes FDA GMO Approval Process is Flawed, Outdated, and Unscientific

A new study published today in the peer-reviewed journal AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES reveals genetic engineering of soy disrupts the plant's natural ability to control stress, and invalidates the FDA's current regulatory framework of "substantial equivalence" used for approval of genetically engineered food (GMOs).

The study, led by Dr. V.A. Shiva Ayyadurai, Ph.D., an MIT-trained systems biologist, utilizes his latest invention, CytoSolve, a 21st century systems biology method to integrate 6,497 in vitro and in vivo laboratory experiments, from 184 scientific institutions, across 23 countries, to discover the accumulation of formaldehyde, a known carcinogen, and a dramatic depletion of glutathione, an anti-oxidant necessary for cellular detoxification, in GMO soy, indicating that formaldehyde and glutathione are likely critical criteria for distinguishing the GMO from its non-GMO counterpart.

Dr. Ayyadurai stated, "The results demand immediate testing along with rigorous scientific standards to assure such testing is objective and replicable. It's unbelievable such standards for testing do not already exist. The safety of our food supply demands that science deliver such modern scientific standards for approval of GMOs."

"The discovery reported by Dr. Ayyadurai reveals a new molecular paradigm associated with genetic engineering that will require research to discover why, and how much formaldehyde and glutathione concentration, and what other cellular chemicals relevant to human and animal health, are altered. We need the kinds of standards Dr. Ayyadurai demands to conduct such research," stated Dr. Ray Seidler, a former EPA Senior Scientist. "Formaldehyde is a known class1 carcinogen. Its elevated presence in soybeans caused by a common genetic engineering event is alarming and deserves immediate attention and action from the FDA and the Obama administration. Soy is widely grown and consumed in the U.S., including by infants fed baby food products, with 94% of soy grown here being genetically engineered," declared Seidler.

The study concludes the U.S. government's current standards for safety assessment of GMOs, based on the principle of "substantial equivalence," is outdated and unscientific for genetically engineered food since it was originally developed for assessing the safety of medical devices in the 1970s. The current criteria for assessing "equivalence" considers only basic nutritional and superficial characteristics such as taste, sight, smell and touch, for declaring GMOs safe for human consumption, allowing them to be fast-tracked to market without independent scientific testing. If formaldehyde and glutathione were criteria, then the GMO would likely not be deemed "equivalent" to its non-GMO counterpart. This finding calls into question the FDA's food safety standards for the entire country.

The publication of the paper coincides with release of a bulletin by the Obama Administration on July 2, 2015, calling for "Improving Transparency and Ensuring Continued Safety in Biotechnology."

Ayyadurai shares, "This is not a pro- or anti-GMO question. But, are we following the scientific method to ensure the safety of our food supply? Right now, the answer is 'no'. We need to, and we can, if we engage in open, transparent, and collaborative scientific discourse, based on a systems biology approach."

The full study can be read here: <http://www.integrativesystems.org/systems-biology-of-gmos/>

~~~~~  
=====

Jay Byrne, president

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AOL IM: VFJByrne

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/jaybyrne>

Fax: 877-568-4848

=====

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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** Folta, Kevin M.  
**Date:** Fri, 18 Apr 2014 06:44:13 EDT  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** ... as toxic as ...

---

There was a nice graphic that Prakash posted on GMO LOL that had roundup next to a dozen other household compounds in terms of toxicity... can someone repost a hi-res version?

Thanks

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta  
Associate Professor and Chair  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

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Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kevinfolta

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com] on behalf of Prakash, Channapatna S. [prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 17, 2014 9:19 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter  
**Subject:** Chatter: Re: Evidence of gene transfer across plant species over millions of years

Link to the original PNAS paper showing the horizontal transfer of genes among plant species

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2014/04/09/1319929111>

You can bet that anti-GM activists now will use this paper to foster their argument that introduced genes would jump out of GM crops while ignoring the evidence that this occurs over millions of years.

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From: Folta, Kevin M.  
Date: Thu, 07 Aug 2014 06:59:49 EDT  
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: RE: Chatter: Consumer Reports gmo soy

---

Wayne,

It was the most recent Consumer Reports- in an area of milk substitutes.

"Soy Milk"

"Cons; Flavored varieties have added sugars. And most soybeans are grown from genetically modified seeds. Look for brands with the USDA organic seal or non-GMO verified label"

A friend of mine is a CR subscriber and actually wrote to them, stating "I subscribe to CR because I used to get information that was based on evidence." Bravo!

[www.consumerreports.org/lettertoeditor](http://www.consumerreports.org/lettertoeditor)

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

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Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kevinfolta

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com]  
Sent: Monday, August 04, 2014 5:15 PM  
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com  
Subject: RE: Chatter: Consumer Reports gmo soy

Page 8, September 2014 issue

---

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "Val Giddings lvg@outlook.com [AgBioChatter]"  
Date: 08/04/2014 3:20 PM (GMT-06:00)  
To: "AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com"  
Subject: RE: Chatter: Consumer Reports gmo soy

Wayne/All -- Anybody have any idea precisely which issue of CR this drivel appeared in? I'd like to be able to cite chapter and verse in addition to the scan when taking them to task...

Val

---

To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com  
From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com  
Date: Mon, 4 Aug 2014 19:25:49 +0000  
Subject: Chatter: Consumer Reports gmo soy [1 Attachment]

[Attachment(s) from Wayne Parrott included below]

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

FYI

---

Posted by: Wayne Parrott <[wparrott@uga.edu](mailto:wparrott@uga.edu)>

---

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Check out the automatic photo album with [1 photo\(s\)](#) from this topic.



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From: Folla, Kevin M.  
Date: Tue, 12 Aug 2014 22:15:52 EDT  
To:  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: Oz.

---

Hi Everyone,

Oz is looking for someone to take on a discussion of Enlist approval.

Aug 20. My gut says losing cause. New herbicide resistance traits don't resonate with his audience, no matter how you address it.

Thoughts?

1. I'm happy to refer them to you.
2. I can take this on if we don't want the crazies to have a one-sided rant. However, I think this is a loser going in.

Feedback appreciated. My sense is that this is not the issue to win hearts and minds.

Kevin

\*\*\*\*\*

Sent from my phone.

On Aug 12, 2014, at 8:16 PM, "Jay Byrne [jay.byrne@v-fluence.com](mailto:jay.byrne@v-fluence.com) [AgBioChatter]" <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

This group claims that contributions to them are **tax deductible**, but then asks for additional **information required for campaign finance disclosure** which would not make sense for a tax-exempt, 501c3 organization.  
<https://freedomfrompesticidesalliance.nationbuilder.com/donate>

A quick search on the IRS website does not show any Oregon registered tax-exempt organization by this name; but they are a registered business with the OR Secretary of State.

| Registry Nbr | Entity Type | Entity Status | Jurisdiction | Registry Date | Next Renewal Date | Renewal Due? |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 966938-91    | ABN         | ACT           |              | 09-25-2013    | 09-25-2015        |              |

|             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Entity Name | FREEDOM FROM PESTICIDES ALLIANCE |
|-------------|----------------------------------|

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Foreign Name |  |
|--------------|--|

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Affidavit? | N |
|------------|---|

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| <a href="#">New Search</a> | <a href="#">Printer Friendly</a> | Associated Names |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|

|      |     |                             |  |
|------|-----|-----------------------------|--|
| Type | PPB | PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS |  |
|------|-----|-----------------------------|--|

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| Addr 1 | 2021 DEER CREEK ROAD |
| Addr 2 |                      |

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| CSZ | SELMA | OR | 97538 | Country | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA |
|-----|-------|----|-------|---------|--------------------------|

The Authorized Representative address is the mailing address for this business.

|      |     |                           |            |            |             |  |
|------|-----|---------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Type | REP | AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE | Start Date | 09-25-2013 | Resign Date |  |
|------|-----|---------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--|

|      |        |       |  |  |
|------|--------|-------|--|--|
| Name | AUDREY | MOORE |  |  |
|------|--------|-------|--|--|

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|-----|-------|----|-------|---------|--------------------------|

|      |     |            |  |  |
|------|-----|------------|--|--|
| Type | REG | REGISTRANT |  |  |
|------|-----|------------|--|--|

|      |        |       |  |  |
|------|--------|-------|--|--|
| Name | AUDREY | MOORE |  |  |
|------|--------|-------|--|--|

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| Addr 1 | 2021 DEER CREEK ROAD |
| Addr 2 |                      |

|     |       |    |       |         |                          |
|-----|-------|----|-------|---------|--------------------------|
| CSZ | SELMA | OR | 97538 | Country | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA |
|-----|-------|----|-------|---------|--------------------------|

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| <a href="#">New Search</a> | <a href="#">Printer Friendly</a> | <a href="#">Name History</a> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|

| Business Entity Name             | Name Type | Name Status | Start Date | End Date |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|----------|
| FREEDOM FROM PESTICIDES ALLIANCE | EN        | CUR         | 09-25-2013 |          |

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| <a href="#">New Search</a> | <a href="#">Printer Friendly</a> | <a href="#">Summary History</a> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|

| Image Available                                                                   | Action                       | Transaction Date | Effective Date | Status | Name/Agent Change | Dissolved By |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------|-------------------|--------------|
|  | APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION | 09-25-2013       |                | FI     | Representative    |              |

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Jay Byrne, president

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LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/jaybyrne>

Fax: 877-568-4848

SKYPE: Jay\_Byrne

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**From:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com) [<mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2014 3:09 PM  
**To:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)  
**Subject:** Chatter: FW: Freedom from Pesticides Bill of Rights - Josephine County, OR

Dear Friends,

FYI about anti-technology, anti-modernity raging on unabashed.

Drew

Drew L. Kershen

Earl Sneed Centennial Professor of Law (Emeritus)

University of Oklahoma, College of Law

300 West Timberdell Road

Norman, Oklahoma 73019-5081 U.S.A.

p/ 1-405-325-4784

f/ 1-405-325-0389

[dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu)

<http://law.ou.edu/faculty/kershen/>

<http://works.bepress.com/drew.kershen/>

<http://ssrn.com/author=285854>

---

Posted by: Jay Byrne <[Jay.Byrne@v-fluence.com](mailto:Jay.Byrne@v-fluence.com)>

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From: Folta, Kevin M.  
Date: Wed, 13 Aug 2014 08:39:56 EDT  
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: RE: Chatter: Re: Oz - opportunity

---

Jay,

Very good. I just got off the phone with them (no intention of joining them, but wanted to hear the story) and they have EWG folks and Mark Bittman as their other guests. Looks like the usual BS.

I had a good conversation with the producer and told him that they will never get an independent expert to agree to be on the show because of the use of academics for false balance. I used that main theme.

Your points are spot on. I didn't even go there but we should have a written document to that effect.

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

*"Don't tell me what ~~can't~~ be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it."* – Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kvinfolta

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2014 8:07 AM  
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com  
Subject: RE: Chatter: Re: Oz - opportunity

This, and every time any credible academic expert or independent scientist is invited to appear, is an opportunity to decline and make public corrective demands of Oz for past behavior.

---

**Oz needs the credible science and academic community now more than this community needs him.** Following the Senate hearings exposing him for misrepresenting important issues related to science and health no respected academic or independent scientist should even consider appearing on his program to help restore that credibility until:

- Oz publicly disavows the claims and claim makers he's allowed on his program to promote anti-science, public fear mongering agendas including, but not limited to [Mike Adams](#), [Joe Mercola](#), [Gary Hirshberg](#) and [Jeffrey Smith](#).
- Oz acknowledges and apologizes for his program's well-documented duplicitous engagements and manipulated representations of respected and credible academics in negotiating program appearances (e.g., [Pam Ronald](#), Alison Van Eenennaam, Martina McGloughlin)
- Oz stands behind the overwhelming scientific and medical community consensus on such issues ranging from the safety of plant biotechnology (GMOs) to the efficacy and safety of vaccinating children

Given this past behavior and repeat misrepresentations that mislead and harm the public health it would be unethical for any responsible academic, scientist or public health professional to participate in any Oz activity that perpetuates false and misleading representations to his viewing audience.

A standard letter expressing something along these lines could be made available online and automatically publicized each time any academic or expert is contacted by the show. This letter could then be cc'd to U.S. Senator Clare McCaskill, Oprah Winfrey (her company produces the Oz Show), etc... The initial letter and it's availability online for any future invitee to use could be promoted via a press release from any appropriately positioned group (e.g. Academics Review).



=====

Jay Byrne, president

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Fax: 877-568-4848

SKYPE: Jay\_Byrne

=====

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**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2014 3:50 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Re: Oz.

Agreed- a complex issue that cannot be explained properly to an audience of this sort.

If I had to come up with a one liner it would be 'the conventional (non GM) alternative weed control strategy is worse for the environment' – anyone who wants additional detail let me know by separate email direct

Graham

Graham Brookes

GBC Ltd & PG Economics Ltd

---

Posted by: Jay Byrne <Jay.Byrne@v-fluence.com>

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From: Folta, Kevin M.  
Date: Sat, 04 Oct 2014 19:58:45 EDT  
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: PA House of Reps Ag Committee- MONDAY

---

Hi Chatterers,

Just a little FYI... the PA House Ag and Rural Affairs Committee at least has the wherewithal to discuss GM and labeling with a couple of scientists and the usual suspects before considering it for a vote...

This should be watch-able on the PA -CSPAN--- should be a hoot. Just sent a note to Chuck asking if he needs a roommate or a ride. Val and I are batting cleanup. Looking forward to it.

kf

**Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee  
Introduction to Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)  
October 6, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Room 140 Main Capitol, Harrisburg**

**AGENDA**

|           |                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. | Call to order—Representative John Maher, Chairman                                                                                                   |
| 9:05      | Dr. Troy Ott, Ph.D.<br>Professor of Reproductive Physiology<br>The Pennsylvania State University                                                    |
| 9:30      | John Tooker, Ph.D.<br>Associate Professor of Entomology and Extension Specialist<br>The Pennsylvania State University                               |
| 9:50      | David Mortensen, Ph.D.<br>Professor of Weed and Applied Plant Ecology<br>The Pennsylvania State University                                          |
| 10:10     | Stephanie Seneff, Ph.D.<br>Senior Research Scientist<br>MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory                                 |
| 10:30     | Chuck Benbrook, Ph.D.<br>Manager, Measure to Manage (M2M)<br>Farm and Food Diagnostics for Sustainability and Health<br>Washington State University |
| 10:50     | Kevin M. Folta, Ph.D.<br>Professor and Chairman<br>Horticultural Sciences Department<br>University of Florida                                       |
| 11:10     | L. Val Giddings, Ph.D.<br>Senior Fellow<br>Information Technology and Innovation Foundation<br>Washington, D.C.                                     |
| 11:30     | Adjourn                                                                                                                                             |

\*\*\*\*\*

by Representative Carolyn Dykema  
October 1, 2014  
Representative Dykema Editorial: The Case for Labeling "GMO" Food

Several years ago I had never heard of GMO food. Today, increasing consumer interest has led some companies, like Whole Foods Markets, to voluntarily adopt GMO labeling requirements on all of their products by 2018. GMO food is defined by the World Health Organization as "food with DNA that has been altered in such a way that does not occur naturally."

Whether we know it or not, most of us have eaten genetically modified "GMO" food since it became common in 1994. A common example is Bt corn, found in a wide range of products containing corn syrup, such as most baked goods and juices.

As the public becomes more aware of the extensive use of GMOs in food products, discussion is increasing exponentially. A quick internet search of "GMO food" reveals the extent of the dialogue which includes efforts across the country to pass legislation requiring consumer labeling of products produced with GMOs.

What are the concerns with GMOs?

Many highlight unknown long-term health impacts of genetically modified foods. Some studies suggest that the increasing prevalence of food allergies may be due, at least in part, to our increased consumption of foods containing GMOs. Additional studies raise other health concerns that merit further attention.

In addition to public health worries, there are concerns about impacts on the world's food supply, including evidence suggesting GMO crops may harm pollinators like bees and butterflies which are essential to food production. While yet others speculate that over time the

use of GMO seeds, which are protected by intellectual property law, may restrict the world's seed supply to ownership by only a few large corporations.

All of these concerns are troubling and merit further study. However, there's a compelling reason to act today on GMO labeling. And that reason is rooted in an unlikely place: capitalism.

The success of the American economy, the strongest and most innovative in the world, lies in capitalism. As a capitalist society we believe that our economic prosperity is tied to a simple formula: companies that respond to the needs of the consumer prosper, while those that don't, fail. This model assumes that consumers have enough information - including information about whether their food contains GMOs - to make informed choices about their purchases.

Providing consumers with GMO labeling is good for competitive markets and supports informed consumer choice. Most important, it's good for the public which has the right to know and to choose what's in the food we eat and feed our families.

Now is the time for the legislature to act on GMO labeling.

State Representative Carolyn Dykema represents the towns of Holliston, Hopkinton, Southborough and Westborough (pct. 2) and has served on the Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture since 2009.

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
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Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

*"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." - Norman Borlaug.*

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kevinfolta

**From:** Folta, Kevin M.  
**Date:** Fri, 07 Nov 2014 21:06:56 EST  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** "Science Center" endorses anti-GMO

---

Hi Folks,

This one makes me want to scream. The South Florida Science Center has invited in a speaker to talk about the "potential dangers of GMOs". Turns out she's a local dietitian that has worked with Food and Water Watch on pushing labeling issues in Florida and GM bans in West Palm Beach.

I notified them of this, and they told me that it is important to show "both sides" of the issue.

If anyone feels like dropping an email, here are the directors:

<https://www.sfsiencecenter.org/team>

here's the ad for the event.

<https://www.facebook.com/sfsiencecenter/photos/a.391712287141.176744.63616787141/10152352769542142/?type=l&theater>

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Twitter [@kfolta](#)

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 07, 2014 2:57 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: A subtle form of the Cartagena protocol

Dear folks,  
yesterday I discovered that international shipment of transgenic material equals to the shipment of dangerous goods. The rule applies only when shipping by plane, but not by train (by the way, I thought the US was a sensible country...).

If you don't believe me, try googling: Shipping genetically modified organism and you'll see several manual from U.S universities detailing the procedure. see for instance:

<http://www.dehs.umn.edu/PDFs/shippingGMO.pdf>

or

<http://ehs.ucsc.edu/shipping/gmmo.html>

It looks like an international agreement, a sort of Cartagena protocol that applies also to research material for contained use (which was exempted by the CP).

Who has created these rules? Could you circumvent them by shipping by sea? Train is not an option to reach Europe from the US, for now.

Best regards, P.

---

Posted by: Piero Morandini <[piero.morandini@unimi.it](mailto:piero.morandini@unimi.it)>

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**From:** Folta, Kevin M.  
**Date:** Sun, 09 Nov 2014 08:02:45 EST  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Any Schmeisser Experts out there?

---

I read the canola wikipedia entry today. The section on "litigation" seems a little soft. It mentions the Schmeisser case and sends the reader home with the 'few contaminating seeds' feel and does not correctly report actual acreage, etc.

It should be edited. Does someone know all the precise information and sources? I can do it, but would rather give this to someone that already knows the specifics.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canola><http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canola>

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---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 09, 2014 7:06 AM  
**To:** agbiochatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Worth a re-read: Facts do not matter when they contradict...

Chris Mooney, who has just joined the Business staff of the Washington Post, is a partisan hack; see <http://news.heartland.org/newspaper-article/2006/05/01/mad-science>. It will behoove us to watch for bias in his columns.

---

Posted by: Henry Miller <[henry.miller@stanford.edu](mailto:henry.miller@stanford.edu)>

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From: Folta, Kevin M.  
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2014 23:53:00 EST  
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: South Florida Science Center

---

Hi Everybody,

I'm so disappointed. A "Science Center" in my state just allowed a political labeling event (as predicted) to happen under their name.

The video is here <http://youtu.be/A2pB0fSi2BI> Remember, they said this would be scientific. Check 29-39 min. All labeling.

Check out the Q&A at the end (1:10 min or so) when someone was allowed to rail against Monsanto and Indian suicides, uncontested. Moderator didn't care. Sort of agreed.

If you are compelled, drop a note to the Science Center. They think "teaching the controversy" is just fine.

It is an example of what we all need to be aware of. Activists infiltrating reputable organizations and leeching their credibility.

Kevin

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Twitter @kevinfolta

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 3:36 PM  
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
Subject: Re: Chatter: RE: Letters from America millionaire celebrity Westwood says eat less if you cannot afford organic

"I have read that French revolutionaries made up the story about Marie Antoinette ("Let them eat cake."), along with other additional slanderous stories about her, for public consumption to justify their show trial of her and her foreordained execution by guillotine. "

I am afraid this is fully true. The 1789 French revolution was inspired (to some extent) by the Enlightenment, but sunk in a criminal and totalitarian system (the Terror, 1793-1794). It took France almost a century to establish a freedom-based political system (the Third Republic), allowing political and civil rights to be gradually established.

The execution of Louis the 16th, Marie-Antoinette and their son (who was left to die in a prison) were horrible crimes. The theorician of the Terror, Robespierre, was inspirational to the XXth century totalitarianism. They executed Lavoisier, one of the father of modern chemistry, claiming that the Revolution does not need scientists. Although I am not sure this is really what was said, it nevertheless shows the criminal nature of this political regime.

MK

"Kershen, Drew L.' [dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu) [AgBioChatter]" <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> a écrit :

Dear Friends,

Read no further if you do not want to read emotive responses. T



The below excerpt – a follow on to the Letter from America, that is interrelated (Jay B. tells us) to the Factor Project in Russia – provoked my emotions.

The Letter from America and the Factor project are simply despicable in several ways. But the comments of Vivienne Westwood “takes the cake” to use a phrase.

While I have not done sufficient historical verification, I have read that French revolutionaries made up the story about Marie Antoinette (“Let them eat cake.”), along with other additional slanderous stories about her, for public consumption to justify their show trial of her and her foreordained execution by guillotine. With the Letter from America and the Factor Project, I have a foreboding of a “show trial” followed by a “public execution.” Yes sadly, Russian ideologues, masquerading as scientists, like the French revolutionaries of the Terror, do show trials followed by public execution quite well.

Drew

Drew L. Kershen

Earl Sneed Centennial Professor of Law (Emeritus)

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<http://law.law.ou.edu/faculty/kershen/>

<http://works.bepress.com/drew.kershen/>

<http://ssrn.com/author=285854>

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]

**Sent:** Friday, November 14, 2014 10:25 AM

**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com

**Subject:** Chatter: Letters from America millionaire celebrity Westwood says eat less if you cannot afford organic

And, unbelievably the spin being used now to rationale the statement is that because of Benbrook's study that organic foods give you more nutrition than conventional you can eat less and be healthier...

<http://money.aol.co.uk/2014/11/13/eat-less-says-vivienne-westwood-if-you-cant-afford-organic/>

## Eat less if you can't afford organic - Vivienne Westwood

Is the millionaire fashion designer out of touch?

- By [Emma Woollacott](#), Nov 13, 2014

Peter Byrne/PA WIRE

Marie Antoinette reportedly suggested that starving peasants should eat cake; now, a modern grande dame says that those that [can't afford](#) to buy organic should eat less.

While delivering a petition to Downing Street condemning genetically modified foods, millionaire fashion designer Dame Vivienne Westwood spoke to a BBC Radio 5 Live reporter who pointed out that not everybody can afford organic food.

And her response? That such people should "eat less".

"You've got all these processed foods, which is the main reason people are getting fat. They're not actually good for you - they don't give you strength, they give you weight," she said.

Westwood has expressed similar views in the past, suggesting last year that both clothes and food should cost more than they do: "Something is wrong when you can buy a cooked chicken for £2," she said.

The jury is still out on whether organic food is really healthier than non-organic. In 2009, a Food Standards Agency (FSA) study found no substantial differences or significant nutritional benefits from organic food.

However, more extensive [research](#) from Newcastle University earlier this year found that switching to organic fruits, vegetable and cereals gave people the same amount of extra antioxidants as one or two extra portions of fruit and vegetables a day.

"This study demonstrates that choosing food produced according to organic standards can lead to increased intake of nutritionally desirable antioxidants and reduced exposure to toxic heavy metals," says Professor Carlo Leifert, who led the study.

But what's not in doubt is the extra cost of eating organic - indeed, of eating healthy food at all. Last month, it was revealed consuming 1,000 calories-worth of healthy food costs £7.49, compared with £2.50 for less healthy foods.

And, [according to](#) the University of Cambridge researchers, the gap between healthy and non-healthy is widening.

"The increase in the price difference between more and less healthy foods is a factor that may contribute towards growing food insecurity, increasing health inequalities, and a deterioration in the health of the population," says lead author Nicholas Jones.

**Westwood suggests that eliminating junk food would make organic more affordable, explaining: "If there was a movement to produce more organic food and less of the horrible food, then organic food would obviously be a good value price, wouldn't it?"**

The Soil Association, which campaigns for organic foods, suggests that it is possible to eat organically without breaking the bank. It suggests signing up to an organic box scheme; cooking food from scratch and freezing extra portions; growing your own vegetables and keeping chickens.

However, organic boxes can cost very dear - and chickens don't take too well to windowboxes. Shoppers might be better advised to head for Aldi, which recently launched its own range of organic produce, in some cases costing a quarter of the prices elsewhere.

Jay Byrne, president

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Posted by: [marcel.kuntz@ujf-grenoble.fr](mailto:marcel.kuntz@ujf-grenoble.fr)

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**From:** Folta, Kevin M.  
**Date:** Thu, 20 Nov 2014 06:40:30 EST  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com,  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: Updates to GE Crops Committee Membership - three additional members

---

Val,

Amasino is as solid as they get. He knows the drill, he knows the issues, he'll be great.

What should piss off everyone is that Harry Klee (a colleague of mine here at UF and also a NAS member) was invited to be on this panel.

He was then UN-INVITED because he used to work for Monsanto until 1995, and the organizers thought it would be an issue.

Now here's a guy that is a decorated expert and public scientist, that was disqualified because he left corporate ag to work in the public sector.

Too bad bringing in Smith, Benbrook and others is not evaluated with the same lens.

Really bad.

Kevin

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Twitter @kevinfolta

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 20, 2014 5:53 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: Updates to GE Crops Committee Membership - three additional members

is he politically astute as well as scientifically sound?

---

**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Date:** Wed, 19 Nov 2014 12:48:02 -0600  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Updates to GE Crops Committee Membership - three additional members

Definitely a thumbs-up on Rick Amasino. I've met with him on a couple of occasions.

Karl

On 11/19/2014 12:33 PM, [andy.hedgecock@pioneer.com](mailto:andy.hedgecock@pioneer.com) [AgBioChatter] wrote:

What are the group's thoughts on the three additional members?

### Updates to GE Crops Committee Membership and Statement of Task

The Chairman of the National Research Council (NRC) has provisionally appointed three additional members to the Committee on Genetically Engineered Crops: Past Experience and Future Prospects:

- Richard M. Amasino, Professor of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin–Madison
- Leland L. Glenna, Associate Professor of Rural Sociology, Pennsylvania State University
- Elizabeth P. Ransom, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Richmond

The new appointees to the committee were identified after the consideration of comments received about the committee composition during the initial public comment period as well as consideration of the full range of expertise and experience needed to address the study's statement of task. The public may submit comments to the NRC about the revised committee composition for the next 20 days. To view the committee membership, click [here](#). To provide a comment on the committee's composition, click [here](#).

---

Posted by: Val Giddings <[lvga@outlook.com](mailto:lvga@outlook.com)>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]> <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Mon, 12 Jan 2015 19:23:44 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: RE: Loading

---

Chillingly stupid. Seneff is on fire, citing Wakefield and Huber as credible information. Enjoy.  
Get ready for "neuron burnout"

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=929462363752750&set=vb.488353241197000&type=2&theater>

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Professor and Chairman  
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---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of Chris Leaver [chris.leaver@plants.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chris.leaver@plants.ox.ac.uk)  
[AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 12, 2015 6:22 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Loading

<http://weburbanist.com/2015/01/11/worlds-largest-indoor-farm-is-100-times-more-productive/>

Chris Leaver

---

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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From: "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
Date: Fri, 16 Jan 2015 17:57:20 EST  
To: "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: Chatter: 80% of consumers want mandatory labels.... [1 Attachment]

---

[Attachment(s) from Folta, Kevin M. included below]

According to the 2015 Food Demand Survey (FoodS) done by Oklahoma State University, 82% of people want mandatory labels on food produced with genetic engineering. 80% want mandatory labels on food containing DNA.

(once you compose yourself from laughing/crying)

Participants were asked if they read a book about agriculture in the last year. 16% said yes.

Of those that answered "yes" most didn't remember the title. Fast Food Nation, Food Inc and Omnivore's Dilemma were mentioned each three times, Farmer's Almanac and Skinny Bitch mentioned twice and the Bible once.

Read it and weep.

<http://agecon.okstate.edu/faculty/publications/4975.pdf>

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 4:29 PM  
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
Subject: Chatter: A Non-GM, non-glyphosate contributor to monarch decline

<http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/monarch-butterflies-loss-of-migration-more-disease-0115/>

**Canceled flights: For monarch butterflies, loss of migration means more disease**  
*Planting tropical milkweed, available at many garden centers, makes the problem worse*

Athens, Ga. - Human activities are disrupting the migration patterns of many species, including monarch butterflies. Some monarchs have stopped migrating to their traditional overwintering sites in Mexico, remaining in the southern U.S. to breed during the winter.

A new study by University of Georgia ecologists, just published in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B, has found that these sedentary winter-breeding butterflies are at increased risk of disease, a finding that could apply to other migratory species as well. But, for the monarchs at least, there may be a relatively simple solution.

Every year, millions of monarch butterflies travel from breeding grounds in the eastern U.S. and Canada to spend the winter in central Mexico. In recent years, however, their numbers have declined sharply as changing agricultural practices and land use patterns have reduced the availability of milkweed, the plant on which monarchs lay their eggs.

In response, concerned gardeners have started planting milkweed to help replace some of the butterflies' lost breeding habitat. The most readily available commercially grown milkweed sold by garden centers is the exotic species *Asclepias curassavica*, or tropical milkweed. Monarchs love it, but, according to the study's lead author Dara Satterfield, a doctoral student in the UGA Odum School of Ecology, tropical milkweed does not naturally die back in fall like perennial milkweeds native to North America. In fact, in parts of the southern U.S. from the Gulf Coast to the Atlantic, tropical milkweed can produce foliage and flowers year-round. This allows monarchs in those areas to stay put and keep breeding all winter.

And that's how problems with disease arise.



Satterfield and her colleagues processed more than 5,000 samples taken from monarchs at over 100 sites across the U.S., Canada and Mexico, testing them for infection by a debilitating protozoan parasite. The non-destructive samples, about half of which were collected by citizen scientists through Project Monarch Health, were taken by gently pressing clear tape against the butterfly's abdomen; the samples were then viewed under a microscope.

The researchers found that the non-migratory, winter-breeding monarchs in the southern U.S. were five times more likely to be infected with parasites than migratory monarchs sampled in their summer breeding range or at overwintering sites in Mexico.

Satterfield said that previous studies by co-author Sonia Altizer, Odum School associate dean and UGA Athletic Association Professor in Ecology, showed that for some wildlife species, including monarchs, long distance migration helps to reduce infectious disease transmission.

"Long distance migration can reduce disease in animal populations when it weeds out infected individuals during the strenuous journey, or when the migrating animals get to take a break and move away from contaminated habitats where parasites accumulate," she said. "Our non-migratory monarchs don't have those benefits of migration, so we see that in many cases the majority of monarchs at winter breeding sites are infected."

Satterfield said that this pattern is part of a larger problem.

"Many animal migrations are changing in response to human activities, whether climate change, habitat destruction or barriers to migration," she said. "Some migrations are changing in terms of timing or distance traveled. Some animals have stopped migrating altogether. So in these animals, some pathogens that have been historically kept in check by migration might now become a problem."

Fortunately for the monarchs, there is a large and dedicated core of gardeners and citizen scientists eager to help.

"It was members of the public and citizen scientists who alerted us to the winter breeding behaviors of monarchs in their gardens to begin with," Satterfield said. "So the public has helped us recognize the shift in monarch ecology and document the disease outcomes in a scientific way. And I think they can now help us manage monarch habitats in ways that might reduce disease problems."

Because the monarchs' winter-breeding behavior is made possible by the presence of tropical milkweed, Satterfield recommended that gardeners gradually replace it with native milkweeds as they become available.

"We encourage the planting of native milkweeds whenever possible," she said. "But if you do have tropical milkweed, we recommend cutting it back every few weeks to within 6 inches of the ground in fall and winter. That's especially important in coastal areas of the southern U.S. where we now know disease is a problem." Some locations such as the extreme southern portions of Texas and Florida have supported tropical milkweed for many decades or longer, and Satterfield said that tropical milkweed there can be left in place.

Satterfield's recommendations are based in part on ongoing research by Altizer and Ania Majewska, an Odum doctoral student and Wormsloe Fellow at the UGA Center for Research and Education at Wormsloe in Savannah, where they are testing butterflies' responses to native and non-native host plants in a series of experimental pollinator gardens.

Satterfield said that while the chief driver of the monarch's decline is the loss of native milkweeds in the U.S. and Canada, it's important to tackle the issue of pathogen transmission in winter-breeding populations. "Things could get worse for the monarchs if we don't solve this problem now with the tropical milkweed supporting high levels of disease," she said.

More information about monarchs, parasites and milkweed is available online at [www.monarchparasites.org](http://www.monarchparasites.org) and [monarchjointventure.org/images/uploads/documents/Oe\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://monarchjointventure.org/images/uploads/documents/Oe_fact_sheet.pdf). A list of native milkweeds by region is available at [monarchjointventure.org/images/uploads/documents/MilkweedFactSheetFINAL.pdf](http://monarchjointventure.org/images/uploads/documents/MilkweedFactSheetFINAL.pdf).

The study's third co-author was John Maerz of the UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. The research, available online at <http://rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/282/1801/20141734.full>, was supported by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service.



"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil  
and you're a thousand miles from the corn field." DD Eisenhower

Attachment(s) from Folta, Kevin M. | [View attachments on the web](#)

1 of 1 Photo(s)



[labeling.jpg](#)

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Sun, 01 Feb 2015 13:46:01 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: "No Consensus" Env. Sci. Europe

---

Hello Everyone,

You probably have seen the rather lame **opinion** article in Env. Sci. Europe where 15 usual suspects exclaim, "No Consensus on GMO". No data, no information, just cherry-picked nonsense and reliance on continual fallacy.

Let me cut to the chase.

Under "competing interests" it states, "The authors have no competing interests"

Several of the authors DO have competing interests, Shiva and Hansen at least. Others probably.

What should be done? Should we alert Springer to this discrepancy? The journal (they won't budge)? Should it be published as-is and illuminated, perhaps retracted and revised?

I've got a letter to Springer ready to go. I do think they need to declare their financial interests in shaping their OPINION. My question is, what takes the air out of the balloon best?

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

*"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." - Norman Borlaug.*

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kevinfolta

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of 'Chassy, Bruce M' bchassy@illinois.edu  
[AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 1, 2015 11:44 AM  
**To:** chat group  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Sign this petition from a Chatterer! - commend Girl Scouts for standing up to anti-science bullies

+1

On Feb 1, 2015, at 7:15 AM, Val Giddings [vg@outlook.com](mailto:vg@outlook.com) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

done.

this is highly deserving of support.

---

To: [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)

From: [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)

Date: Sun, 1 Feb 2015 07:52:05 -0600

Subject: Chatter: Sign this petition from a Chatterer! - commend Girl Scouts for standing up to anti-science bullies

<http://www.biofortified.org/2015/01/celebrate-cookies-and-science/>

CS Prakash

---

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <[kfolta@ufl.edu](mailto:kfolta@ufl.edu)>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>  
**Date:** Mon, 09 Feb 2015 15:41:26 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: \$3.3M for U Florida to fight an unpronounceable citrus disease to develop GM citrus that is 'free of GM-signatures'

---

This was not me, not sure who it was.

My proposal was based on some x-ray treated resistant materials and some sequencing to find mutagenized genes conferring resistance.

Kevin

Monsanto - Bayer - Dow - Ketchum - BIO - JPK - Rowell - Crashed Saucer - Syngenta - chemtrails - GMO Answers

---

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**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 2:34 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter  
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Bruce

I respectfully disagree. I was making fun of USDA but this project is scientifically very sound. I just dug this up. see

<http://portal.nifa.usda.gov/web/crisprojectpages/1005657-determining-the-roles-of-candidate-genes-in-citrus-hlb-interactions-and-creating-hlb-resistant-citrus-cultivars.htm>

This is a very well thought of project, and by people who know exactly what they are talking about. I don't blame them for trying to circumvent the burdensome regulation and all the baggage that now goes with anything "GMO" but use the cutting-edge science to develop a product that can actually reach the consumer instead of sitting on the shelf

See more from the project below.

Prakash

Finally, they should be developed using contemporary genetic technologies and approaches in such a way that the cultivars will be free of GMO signatures, thus removing the impediments to their utilization and commercialization associated with regulatory requirements or consumer concerns and reluctance to purchase GMO citrus fruit or juice products. Achieving this goal will support the continued existence and expansion of the US industry, thus avoiding the calamities described above and ensuring an abundant and inexpensive supply of nutritious citrus fruits and juice for the public. Objectives: 1. Validate candidate gene expression in inoculated citrus through RNAseq. 2. Identify sequence polymorphisms in candidate genes from citrus accessions with different responses to HLB and dissect the gene structure and genomic organizations of candidate genes. 3. Understand the roles of candidate genes by over-expressing them in HLB-susceptible citrus cultivars. 4. Develop CRISPR-mediated technologies for development of non-transgenic HLB-resistant citrus. 5. Precision editing of candidate genes for producing HLB-resistant citrus. 6. Outreach and disseminate project results to stakeholders and the public.

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let's resurrect the Proxmire Golden Fleece Awards for this grant. As I understand it there is already a good GM solution to this problem.

USDA needs a house-cleaning and the person who came up with this one needs to be shot, but reassigned or discharged would be good enough.

DISCLAIMER: Henry Miller did not write this comment or even advise me—I'm that angry about this one without any help from Henry. How can we put some heat on the USDA for this nonsense?

Bruce

On Feb 9, 2015, at 10:13 AM, 'Prakash, Channapatna S.' [prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

Akin to DNA fingerprints left in the crime scene by dangerous folks.

Like that 'Starlink' signature that cost \$1B to Aventis!

Prakash

On Mon, Feb 9, 2015 at 12:00 PM, Karl Haro von Mogel [karl@inoculatedmind.com](mailto:karl@inoculatedmind.com) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

Frank N. Foode's autograph for an adoring fan!

Karl

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I would like to know what, exactly, comprises a "GMO" signature.

---

To: [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)  
From: [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)  
Date: Mon, 9 Feb 2015 11:40:20 -0600  
Subject: Re: Chatter: \$3.3M for U Florida to fight an unpronounceable citrus disease to develop GM citrus that is 'free of GM-signatures'! [1 Attachment]

[Attachment(s) from Prakash, Channapatna S. included below]

The said funding to UF. - Brilliant! - "Free of GMO Signatures"

Is that for you Kevin? I know you work on strawberry. Perhaps folks at Lake Alfred?

<Mail Attachment.png>

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Folks (Especially Drew!)

Even USDA gets it! See funding for Florida to develop GMU citrus that is free of GM-signatures! This is where gene-editing is going to take us!

Prakash

<http://www.usda.gov/documents/citrus-greening-awardees-fact-sheet.pdf>

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From: **USDA Office of Communications** <[usda@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:usda@public.govdelivery.com)>

Date: Mon, Feb 9, 2015 at 10:47 AM

Subject: Vilsack Announces \$30 Million to Fight Citrus Disease

To: [prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu)

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# Press Release

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## Vilsack Announces \$30 Million to Fight Citrus Disease

*USDA Targets Citrus Greening with Promising Tools and Long Term Solutions*

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 2015 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced \$30 million in funding today for 22 projects to help citrus producers combat *Huanglongbing* (HLB), also known as citrus greening, a devastating citrus disease that threatens U.S. citrus production. The money will fund promising projects that could offer near-term solutions as well as research funding that may develop long-term solutions. The promising near-term tools and solutions are funded through the HLB Multiagency Coordination Group while the research projects are funded through the Specialty Crop Research Initiative Citrus Disease Research and Education (CDRE) program, which is made available through the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill).

"Our HLB Multi-Agency Coordination Group has worked closely with the citrus industry to select and fund projects that we think will make a real difference for growers against HLB," said Vilsack. "Funding these projects through cooperative agreements puts us one step closer to putting real tools to fight this disease into the hands of citrus growers." Vilsack continued, "Through the CDRE research we are announcing today, we are also investing in long-term solutions to diseases that threaten the long-term survival of the citrus industry."

USDA's HLB Multi-Agency Coordination Group funded fifteen projects that support thermotherapy, best management practices, early detection, and pest control efforts for a total of more than \$7 million. All of them are designed to provide near-term tools and solutions to help the citrus industry fight HLB. The projects include: *Two projects to provide improved delivery of thermotherapy to HLB infected trees, a promising treatment that has shown to help infected trees regain productivity after treatment. One of these projects will test thermotherapy on a grove-wide scale.*

*Six projects to provide citrus producers with best management practices in Florida citrus groves.*

One project will focus on lowering the pH of the irrigation water and soil to strengthen the root systems of citrus trees to help them better tolerate HLB infection.

Three projects will support different combinations of integrated management approaches for sustaining production in trees in different stages of infection.

Two projects will test strategies for preventing tree death due to HLB infection. One of those will field test rootstocks that have shown ability to tolerate HLB infection. The other will use technologies to rapidly propagate the tolerant material for field use by the industry.

*Three projects to increase early detection of HLB.*

One project will train dogs to detect HLB infected trees. Detector dogs have proven to be highly adept at detecting citrus canker and early results suggest they will be an effective early detection tool for HLB.

One project will develop a root sampling and testing strategy.

One project will compare several promising early detection tests.

*Four projects to provide tools to kill the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), the vector of HLB.*

One will produce and release the insect *Diaphorocytus aligarhensis* as a second biological control agent in California.

One project will use a biocontrol fungus to kill ACP adults.

One project will use a trap to attract and kill ACP adults.

One project will increase the use of field cages for the production of the insect *Tamarixia radiata* in residential areas, especially those that are adjacent to commercial groves in Texas. *Tamarixia* has already proven to be an effective biological control agent for ACP. Using field cages will enable the wider use of this effective ACP control.

In addition to these projects, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture funded more than \$23 million dollars for research and education project to find lasting solutions to citrus greening disease. Examples of funded projects include developing HLB-resistant citrus cultivars, the development of field detection system for HLB, using heat as a treatment for prolonging productivity in infected citrus trees, creating a new antimicrobial treatment, among others. A [fact sheet with a complete list of awardees and project descriptions](#) (PDF, 316KB) is available on the USDA website. Fiscal year 2014 grants have been awarded to:

- University of California, Davis, Calif., \$4,579,067
- University of California, Riverside, Calif., \$1,683,429
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$4,613,838
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$3,495,832
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$3,338,248
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$2,096,540
- Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan., \$3,734,480

CDRE is a supplement to the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI). The focus of this year's funding was specifically on citrus greening disease. Because there are wide differences in the occurrence and progression of HLB among the states, there were regional as well as national priorities for CDRE. These priorities, recommended by the Citrus Disease Subcommittee, fall within four categories: 1) priorities that deal with the pathogen; 2) those that deal with the insect vector; 3) those that deal with citrus orchard production systems; and 4) those that deal with non-agricultural citrus tree owners.

The Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@UFL.EDU>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]> <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Mon, 09 Feb 2015 16:06:05 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: \$3.3M for U Florida to fight an unpronounceable citrus disease to develop GM citrus that is 'free of GM-signatures'

---

Bruce,

Yes, I am recommending the tag line to all public researchers. If they want to go through my 35,000 emails a year, have at it.

Kevin

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 3:49 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: \$3.3M for U Florida to fight an unpronounceable citrus disease to develop GM citrus that is 'free of GM-signatures'

Kevin; you have short-changed Bigfoot! Carol points out that if you use that tag line every e-mail you send will need to be forwarded in a FOIA response, or it that the idea?

Bruce

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This was not me, not sure who it was.

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---

Kevin

Monsanto - Bayer - Dow - Ketchum - BIO - JFK - Roswell - Crashed Saucer - Syngenta - chemtrails - GMO Answers

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**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 2:34 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: \$3.3M for U Florida to fight an unpronounceable citrus disease to develop GM citrus that is 'free of GM-signatures'

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See more from the project below.

Prakash

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Akin to DNA fingerprints left in the crime scene by dangerous folks.

Like that 'Starlink' signature that cost \$1B to Aventis!

Prakash

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Frank N. Foode's autograph for an adoring fan!

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<http://www.usda.gov/documents/citrus-greening-awardees-fact-sheet.pdf>

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From: **USDA Office of Communications** <[usda@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:usda@public.govdelivery.com)>

Date: Mon, Feb 9, 2015 at 10:47 AM

Subject: Vilsack Announces \$30 Million to Fight Citrus Disease

To: [prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu)

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# Press Release

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One project will focus on lowering the pH of the irrigation water and soil to strengthen the root systems of citrus trees to help them better tolerate HLB infection.

Three projects will support different combinations of integrated management approaches for sustaining production in trees in different stages of infection.

Two projects will test strategies for preventing tree death due to HLB infection. One of those will field test rootstocks that have shown ability to tolerate HLB infection. The other will use technologies to rapidly propagate the tolerant material for field use by the industry.

*Three projects to increase early detection of HLB.*

One project will train dogs to detect HLB infected trees. Detector dogs have proven to be highly adept at detecting citrus canker and early results suggest they will be an effective early detection tool for HLB.

One project will develop a root sampling and testing strategy.

One project will compare several promising early detection tests.

*Four projects to provide tools to kill the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), the vector of HLB.*

One will produce and release the insect *Diaphorocytus aligarhensis* as a second biological control agent in California.

One project will use a biocontrol fungus to kill ACP adults.

One project will use a trap to attract and kill ACP adults.

One project will increase the use of field cages for the production of the insect *Tamarixia radiata* in residential areas, especially those that are adjacent to commercial groves in Texas. *Tamarixia* has already proven to be an effective biological control agent for ACP. Using field cages will enable the wider use of this effective ACP control.

In addition to these projects, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture funded more than \$23 million dollars for research and education project to find lasting solutions to citrus greening disease. Examples of funded projects include developing HLB-resistant citrus cultivars, the development of field detection system for HLB, using heat as a treatment for prolonging productivity in infected citrus trees, creating a new antimicrobial treatment, among others. A [fact sheet with a complete list of awardees and project descriptions](#) (PDF, 316KB) is available on the USDA website. Fiscal year 2014 grants have been awarded to:

- University of California, Davis, Calif., \$4,579,067
- University of California, Riverside, Calif., \$1,683,429
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$4,613,838
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$3,495,832
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$3,338,248
- University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., \$2,096,540
- Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan., \$3,734,480

CDRE is a supplement to the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI). The focus of this year's funding was specifically on citrus greening disease. Because there are wide differences in the occurrence and progression of HLB among the states, there were regional as well as national priorities for CDRE. These priorities, recommended by the Citrus Disease Subcommittee, fall within four categories: 1) priorities that deal with the pathogen; 2) those that deal with the insect vector; 3) those that deal with citrus orchard production systems; and 4) those that deal with non-agricultural citrus tree owners.

The Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

#

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This email was sent to [prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu) using GovDelivery, on behalf of USDA Office of Communications - 1400 Independence Ave SW - Washington DC 20250



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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Mon, 16 Feb 2015 13:54:34 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: Points Against Labeling

---

Hi Folks,

I have to assemble a brief document on why labeling should not be allowed. What am I missing?

1. FDA system for labeling potentially harmful ingredients already exists.
2. Foods are identical or near identical, as labels would describe a process
3. Cost- execution. Testing in the supply chain will be expensive
4. Cost- enforcement. Establishing new state agencies to monitor, test, label, enforce, adjudicate and penalize will be expensive
5. No scientific evidence necessitating a label.
6. Poorly written laws that include non recombinant DNA methods.
7. Poorly written laws that provide wide exceptions
8. Farmers will simply continue to grow for cattle feed and fuel, less in human market, higher grocery costs.
9. Misleading customers that there is something inadequate or dangerous about food, in opposition to evidence.
10. Provides a target for nefarious information campaigns to vilify good food.

Any other suggestions welcome. I have to change some thinking on the issue tomorrow.

Kevin

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2015 12:16 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Our Luminaria Campaign

Dear Colleagues,

Last week, Biology Fortified launched a fundraiser to help fund the expansion of the resources that we produce such as GENERA, artwork related to communicating ag biotech, and efforts toward finding grants, and we would appreciate your help! Some of you have supported us in the past, and we certainly appreciate continued support, but more than that we would appreciate it if you could help spread the word to your colleagues about our fundraiser.

We're passing around this fundraising letter, and asking donors to sign the letter to show their support to the world, and help advertise the campaign to their colleagues by passing it along further. Please help us out by spreading the word! And if you have any ideas about people and organizations who we could approach, please let me know. The letter is below, and here is the site url:  
<http://www.biofortified.org/support-us/luminaria/>

Thanks,  
Karl Haro von Mogel

## Help Biology Fortified Light the Way in 2015!

[\(Visit the Luminaria campaign page to view the current list of signatories\)](#)

Biology Fortified, Inc. (BFI) is an independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission to educate and engage the public about issues in food and agriculture, especially plant genetics and genetic engineering. We were an early pioneer in providing accurate and relevant science-based information and a beacon for many.

Biology Fortified has a strong history in science communication. Since our founding in 2008, we have published over 1,000 articles – reaching over 1.7 million views – by volunteer contributors and volunteer editors. With support from the American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB) Educational Foundation, we launched the [GENetic Engineering Risk Atlas \(GENERA\)](#), a database of 400 studies on the impacts of genetically engineered crops. We successfully Kickstarted two plush dolls that represent genetically engineered crops (Frank N. Foode corn and Lanakila papaya). These works and more have only been possible through the social and financial support of readers, skeptics, activists, and scientists like you!

It has become increasingly clear that even more outreach efforts are needed to create a better informed and engaged public. We have a list of 800 more studies that need to be analyzed and added to GENERA. We are developing a neutral fact check website that could become invaluable in debates about biotechnology. We are filming cooking videos with our mascot, Frank N. Foode. And that's just the beginning of what is possible. We have identified a number of local and national grant-making organizations that could support our work, but we will need to hire a fundraising manager to dedicate time to these opportunities. We need to raise \$25,000 to get us started:

- \$2,000 for operating expenses
- \$5,000 for a fundraising manager to apply for grants and manage campaigns
- \$13,000 for a Masters-level editor to add 800 more studies to GENERA
- \$5,000 for a web publishing editor to begin work on our "GMO Fact Check" site

Additional goals include:

- \$5,000 for an outreach coordinator to help recruit more writers and editors, especially current grad students and post docs.
- \$3,000 for a webmaster to improve loading times and help protect our site against attacks.

Any size donation will help light the future: please become one of our Luminaria! A spark (\$5) is needed to get the light started, votives (\$25) and tapers (\$100) are essential to help light the way, pillars (\$500) bring light to the darkness, and a lantern (\$1,000) sheds lasting light on all.

Mailed donations are preferred: Biology Fortified, Inc. 6907 University Ave. #354 Middleton, WI 53562. You may donate via PayPal but they collect a 2.2% processing fee. Direct any questions to [fund@biofortified.org](mailto:fund@biofortified.org).

[Visit the Luminaria campaign page to donate, sign our letter, and view the current list of signatories.](#)

You can also help by forwarding this message to friends and colleagues. Spreading the word and challenging others to support Biology Fortified can mean the difference between reaching some of our goals and reaching all of them! Last but not least, you can support Biology Fortified and science-based communication about genetic engineering by signing our letter below. **Donor names and organizations will be not made public without your consent.**

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of Biology Fortified, Inc.  
Karl Haro von Mogel, Ph.D. (chair)  
Anastasia Bodnar, Ph.D.  
Pamela Ronald, Ph.D.  
David Tribe, Ph.D.  
Kevin Folta, Ph.D.



[Visit the Luminaria campaign page to donate, sign our letter, and view the current list of signatories.](#)

Please direct questions about how to make donations to [fund@biofortified.org](mailto:fund@biofortified.org) and any general questions to Karl Haro von Mogel:



[karl@biortortified.org](mailto:karl@biortortified.org) or (608) 284-8842.

## Sign Our Letter

We, the undersigned, support the mission of Biology Fortified, Inc., and believe that it is important that they produce more educational resources and outreach efforts during 2015 and beyond. We encourage our colleagues, scientists, educators, and other supporters of science to make this work possible through donations, and to [join us in signing this letter](#). Together, we can illuminate the discussion of plant genetics and agricultural biotechnology.

[Visit the Luminaria campaign page to donate, sign our letter, and view the current list of signatories.](#)

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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]> <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Sun, 01 Mar 2015 15:37:48 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: Fwd: media enquiry from China Radio International

---

Here's a little vid where Moms Across America convenes with US-RTK to discuss the FOIA issue. They accuse me of "heckling" scientists in public forums and other assertions, including some really personal digs. Pretty sad.

They don't like me very much. It is really sad because they are so unfair about their criticisms. I've never been nasty or inappropriate, I just make points they don't agree with.

<http://blog.seattlepi.com/videoblogging/2015/03/01/corporate-pr-campaign/>

I really should ask for an apology.

Kevin

---

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Sun, 01 Mar 2015 16:01:45 EST  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: Ag has a science problem

---

AGree...

Last year I agreed to sit on this group, hoping to add some voice of reason. They have the usual suspects, and then others, like physicians, that make statements about papers they have not even read. They read titles and interpret them to say what they want to say. There is no way to even challenge it.

They prepare a synthesis that is then considered to be the outcome of the discussion. The goal is not consensus, you'd never get it. It was a complete BS document I didn't want to be associated with.

If they ever ask you to participate, tell them no. I feel bad for the farmers and others on that panel that go to bat for science. I thought I could change things, but as usual, the crazy inertia is just too massive in some rooms.

Kevin

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 26, 2015 9:12 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Ag has a science problem

AGree organization - <http://www.foodandagpolicy.org/about-us>

AGree is an outfit from Dan Glickman (surely some big sponsors behind it) involving National Geographic and is stacked with Organic and Anti-GMO individuals including Kathleen Murrigan, Fred Yoder, Chuck Benbrook and Gary Hirschberg of Stonyfield Organic Yoghurt.

It is irresponsible that these individuals and organizations provide a false facade of science to this outfit, and then drop in the "No Scientific Consensus" mischief. We need to call them out on it

---

Prakash

[http://www.foodandagpolicy.org/about-us/advisory\\_committee](http://www.foodandagpolicy.org/about-us/advisory_committee)

|                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Co-Chairs                         | <b><u>Advisors</u></b>            |
| <a href="#">Dan Glickman</a>      | <a href="#">Rudy Arredondo</a>    |
| <a href="#">Kathleen Murrigan</a> | <a href="#">Ousmane Badiane</a>   |
| <a href="#">Jim Moseley</a>       | <a href="#">Tres Bailey</a>       |
| <a href="#">Emmy Simmons</a>      | <a href="#">David Baudler</a>     |
| AGree Staff                       | <a href="#">Chuck Benbrook</a>    |
|                                   | <a href="#">Gregory Bohach</a>    |
|                                   | <a href="#">James Borel</a>       |
|                                   | <a href="#">Craig Cox</a>         |
|                                   | <a href="#">Bev Eggleston</a>     |
|                                   | <a href="#">Jeremy Embalabala</a> |
|                                   | <a href="#">Debra Eschmeyer</a>   |
|                                   | <a href="#">Steve Flick</a>       |

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[Beatrice \(Bea\) Rogers](#)  
[Katherine \(Kitty\) Smith](#)  
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[Nancy Straw](#)  
[Robert Thompson](#)  
[Tom Tomich](#)  
[Connie Velllette](#)  
[Claire Wang](#)  
[Shonda Warner](#)  
[Gregory Watson](#)  
[Elaine Waxman](#)  
[Kristin Weeks Duncanson](#)  
[Fred Yoder](#)

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]> <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Wed, 11 Mar 2015 17:36:05 EDT  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: Drucker

---

Any useful reviews of the new Drucker book? I need a quick update to be able to field potential questions.

kf

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

*"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." – Norman Borlaug.*

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kevinfolta

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of V.Moses@qmul.ac.uk [AgBioChatter]  
<AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:02 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Responses to "That scientific 'consensus'"

Bruce:

There is a major difference between the GM and climate issues: the GM argument is a technology question, the climate one both science and technology.

The GM technology argument turns primarily on a question of whether or not to use it. That may be resolved in part on scientific grounds but major factors will include political, economic, and philosophical considerations and others. In support of those non-scientific motivations, some people use aberrant science presumably because they think their other reasons will not gain favour in the public arena. So attack them vigorously for their misuse of science but allow that they do have other considerations with which one may or may not sympathise. Thus, the science of safety and so on is to be resolved solely on the evidence. Whether or not there is a desire to "protect" organic farming from the follies of its adherents is another matter, not scientific in flavour. For those questions, matters of personal or corporate affiliations and funding are most relevant – but not for the science.

The climate issue also has two aspects. The first, one subject to major public discussion, includes whether and to what extent warming is taking place and, if so, what are the drivers, so leading to carbon dioxide and all the rest. That is science; who pays your salary is irrelevant. It's the evidence that counts. If, however, a person or organisation decides that there is an issue, that (dangerous?) warming may occur and that measures must be taken, the background and affiliations of that person or organisation become highly relevant.

I suspect that in the end we may not differ by much but still perhaps by a bit.

Vivian

---

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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From: "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
Date: Sun, 07 Jun 2015 23:08:16 EDT  
To: "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: Re: Chatter: EXCLUSIVE: Anti-GMO harassment alleged at UH - Hawaii News Now - KGMB and KHNL

---

That's Hector. He graduated here from Bruce Schaffer's program in 1990. Long before me!

He's an absolute nutcase on the island. I heard him on the radio and he's conspiratorial, paranoid and drinks the kool-aid. I'm not sure how he stays in the system there. He's an extension guy that really weighs on UH reputation.

kevin

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

"Don't tell me what *can't* be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." - Norman Borlaug.

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter @kevinfolta

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of Wayne Parrott wparrott@uga.edu  
[AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2015 9:16 AM  
To: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
Subject: Re: Chatter: EXCLUSIVE: Anti-GMO harassment alleged at UH - Hawaii News Now - KGMB and KHNL

I do not know him. Just goes to show that idiots come in all nationalities. Looking at his dissertation,

<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00022501/00001> he does not have the background to be passing judgements on these topics.

As to his claim that "the large GMO businesses are dumping more pesticides into the environment, posing potential risks for residents." the data to the contrary are easy to find if he just wanted to look for them.

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of Channa Prakash  
prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2015 8:45 AM  
To: Chatter  
Subject: Chatter: EXCLUSIVE: Anti-GMO harassment alleged at UH - Hawaii News Now - KGMB and KHNL

Another Chapela wannabe? Wayne - you should connect with this guy and see what's going on. He claims he is being harassed for bring Guatemalan!

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/29245638/exclusive-anti-gmo-harassment-alleged-at-uh>

CSPrakash

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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>  
**Date:** Mon, 20 Jul 2015 10:39:21 EDT  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: Journal Shaming

---

Chatterers...

As a scientist that lauds the peer-review process and the gold standard of published research, I'm sick about the recent spate of garbage work earning that seal.

This junk about formaldehyde, the endless trash in Environmental Sciences Europe, and the junk in Entropy by Seneff just pollute and corrupt a good system. They also confuse readers that lack the sophistication to understand the real data.

These predatory journals will continue to publish findings of anyone with a few bucks and a story to tell.

Can we as a research community build a website or database that documents unscrupulous papers/journals/publishers, and why work in their venues is shoddy? Can we get our national organization memberships to never publish there?

Is this public shaming of journals a way to drive them out of business? Can it be done for low/no input energy?

kevin

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 9:08 AM  
**To:** Henry Miller henry.miller@stanford.edu [AgBioChatter]  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: Re: Commentary: Reason's Ron Bailey says Chipotle treats customers like idiots over GMOs, fear profiteering with propaganda

---

FDA is allowing this because Congress has quadrupled their responsibilities over the last 40y without increasing FDA's budget enough to keep pace with inflation. They're doing it because they've properly prioritized for enforcement things that actually produce dead bodies on the short term. And ultimately, they're doing it because the lawsuits they routinely get slapped with have all come from the assholes funded by organic money, and none from anybody who actually cares about fraud or consumer choice.

This is where the "corporate cowardice" mentioned by Saletan in his piece really shines - in the actions or lack thereof of the food companies; the biotech companies he slammed without understanding are far more sinned against than sinning in this regard.

It would be lovely to sue FDA to compel them to go after these impermissible, misleading and fraudulent label claims by the fearmongers. That's the only way, I fear, we will ever see any action on this situation.

Drew, Greg -- what would it take to put together and file a lawsuit on this?

---

**To:** [AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com)  
**From:** [AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com)  
**Date:** Mon, 20 Jul 2015 12:40:42 +0000  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Re: Commentary: Reason's Ron Bailey says Chipotle treats customers like idiots over GMOs, fear profiteering with propaganda



It's becoming harder & harder in my local markets (& I don't live in the Midwest) to find products without the non-GMO label in certain categories. Of course I look & try to avoid purchasing anything with that non-GMO seal; however, my wife and kids bring it home all the time not noticing. It's being slapped on just about everything - particularly products for which there was no possible GMO alternative (eg GMO-free & Gluten Free pistachio nuts) - which raises the question about an absence claim when there is no standard of presence established. FDA won't allow you to make a fat free claim for a product which had no fat to start with (eg orange juice) so why are they allowing GMO free claims when there is no GMO version?

Jay Byrne

Sent from my mobile

(314) 650-2441

(877) 835-8362 ext 2001

[jay.byrne@v-fluence.com](mailto:jay.byrne@v-fluence.com)

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On Jul 20, 2015, at 7:19 AM, [rdmacgregor@gov.pe.ca](mailto:rdmacgregor@gov.pe.ca) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

"...Still, dupes of anti-biotech propaganda are evidently buying some quack non-GMO products. The *Natural Society* health website reported earlier this year that verified GMO-free food sales reached \$8.5 billion in 2014 and that demand is growing faster than many conventional food products...."

I wonder how much of the non-GMO market growth is supplier-driven rather than buyer-driven. For example, when Cheerios goes GMO-free, ALL Cheerios sales suddenly count as part of the GMO-free market, even though Cheerios sales haven't increased and (the vast majority of) consumers haven't demanded, and don't really care about the switch. Only where two otherwise identical products sit side-by-side on a shelf and a consumer chooses the "Non-GMO" labelled product is it fair to attribute that choice to consumer demand.

Bob

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Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <[kfolta@ufl.edu](mailto:kfolta@ufl.edu)>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Fri, 31 Jul 2015 11:08:51 EDT  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: FOIA Update

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Hi Everybody,

I found out yesterday from a 3rd party that my university provided all requested information to US-RTK.

I guess I have to FOIA myself to get copies-- the university told me nothing.

So, dig in for the shitstorm. There's nothing nefarious in there, reimbursements, checks written for costs, small "gifts" to cover seminar costs, student travel, etc. No research support, no consultation, no personal funds.

These rather innocuous facts will be stretched and pulled out of context. While anxious to be preemptive, I'm standing by.

Any recommendations? Should be teaming up with a journalist, etc to get the response in queue?

This is mostly an FYI.

Kevin

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-273-4812

*"Don't tell me what can't be done. Tell me what needs to be done, and let me do it." - Norman Borlaug.*

Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter: [@kevinfolta](#)  
Podcast: [www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com](http://www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com)

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of Chris Leaver [chris.leaver@plants.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chris.leaver@plants.ox.ac.uk)  
**[AgBioChatter]** <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 31, 2015 10:08 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Population debate: Why the Pope needs encouragement, not criticism - Sustainable Food Trust - Sustainable Food Trust

[http://sustainablefoodtrust.org/articles/overpopulation/?utm\\_source=SFT+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=6ad420d002-Newsletter\\_07\\_10\\_2014&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bf20bccf24-6ad420d002-90440905](http://sustainablefoodtrust.org/articles/overpopulation/?utm_source=SFT+Newsletter&utm_campaign=6ad420d002-Newsletter_07_10_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bf20bccf24-6ad420d002-90440905)

Chris Leaver

---

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

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**From:** "Folta, Kevin M." kfolta@ufl.edu [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Date:** Fri, 31 Jul 2015 19:52:16 EDT  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** Chatter: FOIA update II

---

Chatterers,

Here's a FOIA update. I think this is helpful, but if you feel this is of limited relevance or spammy, I can stop.

I'm also seeking guidance.

UF sent Ruskin at USRTK about 100MB comprising 5000 pages of emails with the agencies in question. There is a lot of repetition and blank pages, lots of footnotes, signature lines, etc.

They received this information on June 18, with the final set sent last Monday, July 27.

There is nothing nefarious in there that I know of. I said "Seneff was nuts", but for the most part it is reasonably nothing. Still, lots cherry pickable. Reimbursements for flights, etc, funding from MON to fund a seminar/some outreach, nothing else that exciting. No personal, no research funds. Still enough to patchwork an attack that will delight the credulous.

I'm glad to strategize or take advice. Do I wait for them to put stuff out there, or should I make this all accessible?

Please contact me by email, kfolta@ufl.edu I'm excited to think about how to minimize the impending character assassination.

Kevin

---

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
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Twitter @kevinfolta  
Podcast: [www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com](http://www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com)

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of alanmc@ucr.edu [AgBioChatter]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 31, 2015 1:48 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Re: Commentary: Organic industry funded Civil Eats "news" site defends Moms Across America glyphosate in breast milk claims, questions Monsanto's role in Wash U study

Surprisingly balanced piece, at least in terms of giving both sides' perspectives, considering the source.

But why are they continuing to describe Benbrook as affiliated with WSU?

BTW- Shelley McGuire, the WSU scientist PI on the breast milk-glyphosate study, was also hit in the latest round of FOIA requests

Alan

---

Posted by: "Folta, Kevin M." <kfolta@ufl.edu>

---

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From: Folta, Kevin M.  
Date: Mon, 03 Aug 2015 18:50:31 EDT  
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com,  
CC:  
BCC:  
Subject: Re: Chatter: FOIA requests

---

Bruce,

It doesn't stop anything in my state. Everything is disclosed, information from minors, you name it.

Second round

Kevin M. Folta  
Professor and Chairman  
Horticultural Sciences Department  
Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program and  
Plant Innovation Program  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611

352-373-4812

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Illumination (blog) <http://kfolta.blogspot.com>  
Twitter: @kevinfolta  
Podcast: [www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com](http://www.talkingbiotechpodcast.com)

---

From: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com> on behalf of 'Kershen, Drew L.' dkershen@ou.edu  
[AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com>  
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2015 4:28 PM  
To: AgBioChatter@yahooogroups.com  
Subject: RE: Chatter: FOIA requests

Bruce,

I do not know. I do not have sufficient knowledge of FOIA law. But I would say that the "legend" "disclaimer" only protects the "confidential business information." What this means is that the University may redact some information, but the rest could well be subject to FOIA disclosure.

---

Drew

Drew L. Kershen

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[http://works.bepress.com/drew\\_kershen/](http://works.bepress.com/drew_kershen/)

<http://ssrn.com/author=285854>

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 03, 2015 1:54 PM  
**To:** chat group  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: FOIA requests

Drew

Could a company assert an e-mail is safe from FOIA because of the legend? Thinking here of having the companies sue the university to stop disclosure of all their e-mails.

Bruce

On Aug 3, 2015, at 11:26 AM, 'Kershen, Drew L.' [dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

Bruce,

I have put my answers into your message below.

Drew

Drew L. Kershen

Earl Sneed Centennial Professor of Law (Emeritus)

University of Oklahoma, College of Law

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<http://jlaw.law.ou.edu/faculty/kershen/>

[http://works.bepress.com/drew\\_kershen/](http://works.bepress.com/drew_kershen/)

<http://ssrn.com/author=285854>

---

**From:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com) [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 03, 2015 12:45 PM  
**To:** chat group  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: FOIA requests

Drew

Thanks for an informative e-mail. It is very clear that bottom-feeding parasites like USTRK have learned how to play the system like virtuosos. And the system seems to have been created for their needs. Nobody including the university seems to have the resources to stand up to them.

I have a question. I frequently receive e-mails from companies that say that the e-mail may contain confidential business information and is intended solely for the recipient.

What is that message there for? Does it give the company any right to privacy? I am guessing the answer to my question is no, so why do they put it there?

[DLK Response: While the "legend" or "disclaimer" may not give much in the way of company privacy, it is better to use the "legend" or "disclaimer" than to send the e-mail without doing so. By attaching the language "may contain confidential business information," the company does gain some level of protection for its confidential business information that the company possibly might otherwise not have if the "legend" "disclaimer" were absent. Lawyers often use similar "legends" "disclaimer" about client-attorney confidential communications so as to invoke the attorney-client privilege or the Rule of Professional Conduct (Rule 6) for confidentiality related to information about a representation. The Lawyer "legend" "disclaimer" is much more effective because the public policy for attorney-client privilege and client-attorney confidentiality are much stronger than the public policy related to confidential business information. Thus, there are good reasons for these "legends" "disclaimers" even though the precise scope of protection provided likely varies from message to message and likely varies in terms of the legal protection afforded the information claimed to be confidential or privileged. Drew]

Bruce

On Aug 3, 2015, at 8:30 AM, 'Kershen, Drew L.' [dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

Dear Friends,

In light of recent comments about FOIA, I provide a few comments.

I plan to do this week what Bruce has suggested. I am going to move to a non-university e-mail for this and several other listservs that I receive on a daily basis. I am also going to try to prevent copies of e-mails being stored on the University Server. Because I am the subject to a FOIA (as are so many others of you), I am worried about the criminal and civil penalties for "destroying" communications subject to FOIA. Hence, I have to think carefully about the actions that I can legally take.

As to what counts as communications subject to FOIA, several observations:

First, Bruce and I have been received a sympathetic hearing from our University Counsel that retired faculty (i.e. us both) are not "public employees" engaged in "the transaction of public business, the expenditures of public funds, or the administration of public property." Univ. of Illinois turned down USRTK on the basis that the e-mails requested for Bruce were for a time he was not employed, but retired. The Univ. of Oklahoma is sympathetic to adopting that same denial for me. Of course, that only prompted USRTK to extend its request for e-mails back in time to when Bruce and I were both clearly full-time employees of the University.

Second, even though USRTK is seeking e-mails against Bruce and I for a time period prior to our retirement, I have still discussed with the OU Counsel that my e-mails on various listservs and with individuals were (and still are) private communications, like letters written in 1980 (prior to e-mail). Under the Oklahoma and Illinois statute, the language of the statute clearly states that privacy of communicators, even if government employees, is to be respected. I have discussed with OU that these requests violate that privacy because these e-mails do not involved "the transaction of

public business, the expenditures of public funds, or the administration of public property.” I have given OU Counsel the context that these USRTK FOIA requests are fishing expeditions meant to harass and to silence freedom of speech and freedom of association. OU has been much less sympathetic to this approach because OU takes the position that public employees basically have no privacy when using university computers and university e-mail addresses. I think that OU approach clearly violates the statutory language about protecting the privacy of employees, but OU finds it easier to comply than to resist. I do not know what response I will give if OU says that they are broadly going to reveal my e-mails while I was clearly employed as a faculty member. This could involve the need for finding a lawyer to bring a Section 1983 law suit against the university for violation of my constitutional rights. But, as many have said, I like others have been unsuccessful in finding funding for lawyers or sympathetic pro bono lawyers. I am disinclined to represent myself for many reasons.

Third, in light of what I have said above that the crucial legal issues are two: What is public business? What privacy does a public employee have? What these two questions mean is that moving to a non-university e-mail is only marginally helpful because even if you are using a private e-mail, the question still is: Are you conducting public business on the private e-mail? If the answer is “yes,” then many Attorney General Opinions, including in Oklahoma, indicate that these e-mails on private addresses are subject to FOIA because the messages involve public business. Hence, I agree with Karl and Bruce that we all should move away from our university e-mail systems for this listserv (and I am going to make the switch this week); but, be aware that USRTK will likely then demand that the University search your “private address” e-mails for “public business” communications or that you personally search your private e-mails. This is similar to the “discovery” request that Jon E faces.

I urge resisting disclosure as much as possible because USRTK is on a strategy to acquire as many e-mails as possible. In my opinion, every release will simply lead to new FOIA requests based on addresses, names, etc. that USRTK has gleaned from those released to them. Of course, USRTK will also be combing those released e-mails to create a negative narrative about each of us in a vast conspiracy of a secret cabal.

I also advise against a publication of your e-mails released as a preemptive strike. I am quite worried about USRTK and specific individual USRTK allies filing defamation and libel lawsuits against you if you do publish preemptively. We know that allies of USRTK, most recently Judy Carman in Australia, have filed defamation and libel lawsuits. In the U.S.A., these lawsuits have little chance of actually winning but have great effect in harassment and intimidation (to make you go silent and withdraw from the public debate). USRTK, unlike us on this listserv, has the money to invest in these harassing and intimidating lawsuits with very little risk that any court would sanction them for a frivolous lawsuit. Hence, for a relatively small investment, USRTK can put the burden of legal fees, law suit time and effort on us with a defamation and libel lawsuit. I am quite worried that if you publish your e-mails that you will run a significant risk of USRTK then suing you.

I agree with Jay that it is important to find a sympathetic science journalist who can tell the story of what USRTK is doing. We had such stories shortly after the first round. We have not have sympathetic stories after the second round – at least not until Karl publishes on Biofortified about this second round of FOIA requests.

---

I have so much else that I could say, but it is time to end this already lengthy e-mail.

Best regards,

Drew

Drew L. Kershen

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University of Oklahoma, College of Law

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[http://works.bepress.com/drew\\_kershen/](http://works.bepress.com/drew_kershen/)

<http://ssrn.com/author=285854>

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Posted by: "Kershen, Drew L." <[dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu)>

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**From:** Bob Goldberg [<mailto:bobg@ucla.edu>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 19, 2012 12:20 PM  
**To:** Kathy Fairbanks  
**Subject:** Fwd: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study

Rat study...please take notice of what Drww Kershen wrote...you should contact him...

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Prakash, Channapatna S."  
<[prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
**Date:** September 19, 2012 12:06:18 PM PDT  
**To:** Goldberg <[bobg@ucla.edu](mailto:bobg@ucla.edu)>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kershen, Drew L.** <[dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu)>  
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2012 at 1:44 PM  
Subject: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
To: "[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)"  
<[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>

In light of the scientific papers from 1968 and 1979 about the genetic predisposition to tumors among the breed of rats used by Seralinia et. al in the just announced and published study on rat feeding, I think that I, as a non-scientist, can “smell a rat” or “spot a fraud.”

This paper is a well contrived scientific fraud. Here is how it works.

1. Choose a breed of rat predisposed to tumors; feed them without limiting the food intake; take photos of rats with tumors at the end of two years to gain “visual impact” and, sympathy for animals; attribute the tumor cause as GMOs or Glyphosate without mentioning the genetic predisposition. Hold press conference; publish by fooling a journal.
2. Fail to mention that at the end of two years (735 days), prior scientific literature indicates that a very high percentage of this breed of rats would have tumors solely from the genetic predisposition to tumors. No other explanation is needed. The Seralini study is in line with prior predictions from prior scientific papers about the genetic predisposition.
3. Do not take photos or provide information on the control rats because the photos and information would show that the control rats also had tumors and had life spans basically the same as the “dosed” rats. Hide the control information by not putting it into your paper.

The real question is not the scientific validity of their findings. Their findings have no scientific meaning of validity with regard to

GMOs or Glyphosate. The real question is proving or showing that Seralini and coauthors purposely selected this breed of rat so as to create this elaborate scheme of faked, fraudulent science.

Someone with scientific credentials needs immediately to call this paper as faked, fraudulent science. This “some scientist” needs to live in the United States in order to avoid the criminal libel laws of England, France, Peru, etc. I think my questions and outline of faked science are legitimate inquires and challenges in a scientifically defensible way of testing and retesting the methods, standards, and conclusions of a published paper. This is not an ad-hominem attack; this is a defense of scientific integrity.

Drew

Drew L. Kershen  
Earl Sneed Centennial Professor of Law (Emeritus)  
University of Oklahoma, College of Law  
300 West Timberdell Road  
Norman, Oklahoma 73019-5081 U.S.A.  
*p* [1-405-325-4784](tel:1-405-325-4784)  
*f* [1-405-325-0389](tel:1-405-325-0389)  
[dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu)  
<http://jay.law.ou.edu/faculty/kershen/>

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From: Bob Goldberg <bobg@ucla.edu>  
Subject: Re: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
Date: September 19, 2012 at 12:29:28 PM PDT  
To: "Kathy Fairbanks" <kfairbanks@bcfpublicaffairs.com>

I am talking to LA Times about this at 4 pm.

rbg

On Sep 19, 2012, at 12:26 PM, Kathy Fairbanks wrote:

Thanks. This is helpful. I have to stick to Prop. 37 and the provisions in my remarks but I can send people his way. If you get calls, you should also send reporters to Drew. I'm going to email him and ask if he's posted something about this on his blog/website. Do you know him? Can I use your name?

Kathy Fairbanks  
Bicker, Castillo & Fairbanks  
(916) 443-0872 ph

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**Subject:** Fwd: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study

Rat study...please take notice of what Drww Kershen wrote...you should contact him...

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**From:** "Prakash, Channapatna S."  
<[prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
**Date:** September 19, 2012 12:06:18 PM PDT  
**To:** Goldberg <[bobg@ucla.edu](mailto:bobg@ucla.edu)>

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<[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>

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Drew

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*f* [1-405-325-0389](tel:1-405-325-0389)  
[dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu)  
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From: Bob Goldberg <[bobg@ucla.edu](mailto:bobg@ucla.edu)>  
Subject: Re: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
Date: September 19, 2012 at 12:28:49 PM PDT  
To: "Kathy Fairbanks" <[kfairbanks@bcfpublicaffairs.com](mailto:kfairbanks@bcfpublicaffairs.com)>

**press releases**

19 September 2012

**Expert reaction to GM**



## maize causing tumours in rats

*A toxicology study in Food and Chemical Toxicology into the health impact of a GM tolerant maize crop and the herbicide Roundup suggested lab rats developed mammary tumours and were more likely to die prematurely.*

**Prof Maurice Moloney, Institute Director and Chief Executive , Rothamsted Research, said:**

"Although this paper has been published in a peer-reviewed journal with an IF of about 3, there are anomalies throughout the paper that normally should have been corrected or resolved through the peer-review process. For a paper with such potentially important findings, it would have been more satisfying to have seen something with a more conventional statistical analysis. A comparison of each measured parameter, which took into account the variance throughout the experiment, which would have been revealed using a multiple range test, would have provided better evidence for the concluding remarks and the abstract. Figure 1 does not provide any data from the controls and their variance is unreported here. Table 2 reports different numbers of individuals used for the controls than the treatments. In all cases the controls have used less

the controls have used less individuals than used in the treatments. The data in Table 2 do not show confidence intervals or provide evidence of significant differences between all the treatments and the controls. The lack of a dose response effect is argued by the authors to be indicative of a "threshold" effect. This is an extrapolation of their findings and could only be determined by intermediate dosing. The photographs are very graphic, but do not include a control. Sprague-Dawley rats frequently develop mammary tumours in well-fed controls. Are we to conclude from this that no controls developed tumours? Numerically, we cannot tell, because they are absent also from Figure 2. We are performing a more detailed analysis of the statistics in relation to the conclusions, but for the present it is fair to point out that normally a referee would insist on showing the control data and its variance in such a study."

**Prof David Spiegelhalter,  
Winton Professor of the Public  
Understanding Of Risk,  
University of Cambridge, said:**

"In my opinion, the methods, stats and reporting of results are all well below the standard I would expect in a rigorous study – to be honest I am surprised it was accepted for publication.

"All the comparisons are made with the 'untreated' control group, which only comprised 10 rats of each sex

only comprised 10 rats of each sex, the majority of which also developed tumours. Superficially they appear to have performed better than most of the treated groups (although the highest dose GMO and Roundup male groups also fared well), but there is no proper statistical analysis, and the numbers are so low they do not amount to substantial evidence. I would be unwilling to accept these results unless they were replicated properly."

**Dr Wendy Harwood, senior scientist, John Innes Centre, said:**

"The full data set has not been made available, but the findings do not contradict previous findings that genetic modification itself is a neutral technology, with no inherent health or environmental risks.

"We have to ask whether a diet with this level of maize is normal for rats. Another control with an alternative diet should have been included.

"Ten rats per group is a small number. For example, is the death of three out of ten controls compared to five out of ten males in the treated group statistically significant?

"The data from the control group fed non-GM maize is not included in the main figures making it very difficult to interpret the results.

"Without access to the full data, we

can only say that these results cannot be interpreted as showing that GM technology itself is dangerous. However they do indicate possible concerns over long-term exposure to Roundup that require further study."

### **Further comments from other scientists:**

"Other issues that have come up:

- 'All data cannot be shown in one report and the most relevant are described here' – this is a quote from the paper.
- Small sample size
- Maize was minimum 11% of the diet – not balanced
- No non-maize control?
- No results given for non-gm maize
- For nearly 20 years, billions of animals in the EU have been fed soy products produced from genetically modified soybean, mainly from Latin America. No problems have been reported by the hundreds of thousands of farmers, officials, vets and so on.
- The same journal publishes a paper showing no adverse health effects in rats of consuming gm maize (though this is a shorter 90-day study)
- Statistical significance vs relative frequencies.
- We also have to ask why the rats were kept alive for so long – for humane reasons this study would not have been given approval in the UK.
- In Fig.2, I assume the bars with a

zero is for the non-maize control. Those bars don't look significantly different from the bars indicating 11, 22, and 33% of GM maize in the diet? Have the authors done stats on their data?"

**Prof Anthony Trewavas, Professor of Cell Biology, University of Edinburgh, said:**

"The control group is inadequate to make any deduction. Only 10 rodents so far as I can see and some of these develop tumours. Until you know the degree of variation in 90 or 180 (divided into groups of ten) control rodents these results are of no value.

"These figures for normal appearance of tumours in these rodent lines are surely available and using a line which is very susceptible to tumours can easily bias any result. To be frank it looks like random variation to me in a rodent line likely to develop tumours anyway."

**Prof Ottoline Leyser, Associate Director of the Sainsbury Laboratory, University of Cambridge, said:**

"Like most of the GM debate, this work has very little to do with GM. The authors of the paper do not suggest that the effects are caused by genetic modification. They describe effects of the roundup herbicide itself and effects that they attribute to the activity of the

enzyme introduced into the roundup resistant maize. There is good evidence that introducing genes in to crops using GM techniques results in fewer changes to the crops than introducing them using conventional breeding.

"This is unfortunately rather a subtle point and is somewhat tangential to the immediate issue."

**Prof Tom Sanders, Head of the Nutritional Sciences Research Division, King's College London, said:**

"Most toxicology studies are terminated at normal lifespan i.e. 2 years. Immortality is not an alternative.

"No food intake data is provided or growth data. This strain of rat is very prone to mammary tumours particularly when food intake is not restricted.

"There is a lack of information on the composition of the diet. One concern is whether there were mycotoxins in the maize meal because of improper storage. Zearalanone is a well know phytoestrogen produced by filamentous fungi that grow on maize.

"The statistical methods are unconventional, there is no clearly defined data analysis plan and probabilities are not adjusted for multiple comparisons."

**Prof Mark Tester, Research Professor, Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics, University of Adelaide, said:**

"The first thing that leaps to my mind is why has nothing emerged from epidemiological studies in the countries where so much GM has been in the food chain for so long? If the effects are as big as purported, and if the work really is relevant to humans, why aren't the North Americans dropping like flies?! GM has been in the food chain for over a decade over there – and longevity continues to increase inexorably!

"And if the effects are as big as claimed, why have none of the previous 100+ plus studies by reputable scientists, in refereed journals, noticed anything at all?

"Finally, of course, this was a study of one event with one gene. To then extrapolate to all genetically modified crops is absurd. Even if it eventuates that there is an issue with this one event, or even this one gene, there is no reason at all for other genes introduced using GM to carry the same burden of risk. GM is an adaptation of a natural process that occurs all the time all over the planet – it is "only" a technology, a technique. It is how it is used that is more important. Generalisations about the risk of the technology per se are absurd."

**Prof Alan Boobis, Professor of Biochemical Pharmacology**



**Biochemical Pharmacology,  
Imperial College London, said:**

"Some of the effects are presented in a way that makes it difficult to evaluate their significance. For example, there does not appear to be a statistical analysis of the mammary tumours. These occur quite often in untreated animals. One would usually also take into account the historical controls in the testing lab, in reaching a conclusion. The pesticide itself has been subject to long term studies in rodents by others."

**'Long term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize' by Seralini *et al.*, published in *Food and Chemical Toxicology* on Wednesday 19th September.**

**To contact the above please  
contact the Science Media  
Centre on 020 7670 2980**

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On Sep 19, 2012, at 12:26 PM, Kathy Fairbanks wrote:

Thanks. This is helpful. I have to stick to Prop. 37 and the provisions in my remarks but I can send people his way. If you get calls, you should also send reporters to Drew. I'm going to email him and ask if he's posted something about this on his blog/website. Do you know him? Can I use your name?

Kathy Fairbanks  
Bicker, Castillo & Fairbanks  
(916) 443-0872 ph

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**From:** Bob Goldberg [<mailto:bobg@ucla.edu>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 19, 2012 12:20 PM  
**To:** Kathy Fairbanks  
**Subject:** Fwd: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study

Rat study...please take notice of what Drww Kershen wrote...you should contact him...

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Prakash, Channapatna S."  
<[prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
**Date:** September 19, 2012 12:06:18 PM PDT  
**To:** Goldberg <[bobg@ucla.edu](mailto:bobg@ucla.edu)>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kershen, Drew L.** <[dkershen@ou.edu](mailto:dkershen@ou.edu)>  
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2012 at 1:44 PM  
Subject: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
To: "[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)"  
<[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>

In light of the scientific papers from 1968 and 1979 about the genetic predisposition to tumors among the breed of rats used by Seralinia et. al in the just announced and published study on rat feeding, I think that I, as a non-scientist, can “smell a rat” or “spot a fraud.”

This paper is a well contrived scientific fraud. Here is how it works.

1. Choose a breed of rat predisposed to tumors; feed them without limiting the food intake; take photos of rats with tumors at the end of two years to gain “visual impact” and, sympathy for

animals; attribute the tumor cause as GMOs or Glyphosate without mentioning the genetic predisposition. Hold press conference; publish by fooling a journal.

2. Fail to mention that at the end of two years (735 days), prior scientific literature indicates that a very high percentage of this breed of rats would have tumors solely from the genetic predisposition to tumors. No other explanation is needed. The Seralini study is in line with prior predictions from prior scientific papers about the genetic predisposition.

3. Do not take photos or provide information on the control rats because the photos and information would show that the control rats also had tumors and had life spans basically the same as the “dosed” rats. Hide the control information by not putting it into your paper.

The real question is not the scientific validity of their findings. Their findings have no scientific meaning of validity with regard to GMOs or Glyphosate. The real question is proving or showing that Seralini and coauthors purposely selected this breed of rat so as to create this elaborate scheme of faked, fraudulent science.

Someone with scientific credentials needs immediately to call this paper as faked, fraudulent science. This “some scientist” needs to live in the United States in order to avoid the criminal libel laws of England, France, Peru, etc. I think my questions and outline of faked science are legitimate inquires and challenges in a scientifically defensible way of testing and retesting the methods, standards, and conclusions of a published paper. This is not an ad-hominem attack; this is a defense of scientific integrity.

Drew

Drew L. Kershen  
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From: "Kathy Fairbanks" <kfairbanks@bcfpublicaffairs.com>  
Subject: RE: Chatter: Seralini paper on 2-yr. rat feeding study  
Date: September 19, 2012 at 12:26:16 PM PDT  
To: "Bob Goldberg" <bobg@ucla.edu>

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Kathy Fairbanks  
Bicker, Castillo & Fairbanks  
(916) 443-0872 ph

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**To:** Goldberg <[bobg@ucla.edu](mailto:bobg@ucla.edu)>

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To: "[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)"  
<[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>

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**From:** "Ronald J. Herring" <[ronherring@cornell.edu](mailto:ronherring@cornell.edu)>  
**Date:** Tue, 25 Aug 2015 20:23:11 EDT  
**To:** "Folta, Kevin M." <[kfolta@ufl.edu](mailto:kfolta@ufl.edu)>  
**CC:**  
**BCC:**  
**Subject:** FW: More on Indian Suicides: Brookings Study

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Hi Kevin: as promised. The debt narrative has some plausibility but is not persuasive. Ron

---

**From:** Ronald J Herring <[ronherring@cornell.edu](mailto:ronherring@cornell.edu)>  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2015 at 9:06 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Ablard <[jablard@ithaca.edu](mailto:jablard@ithaca.edu)>  
**Subject:** FW: More on Indian Suicides: Brookings Study

Hi Jonathan: classes start tomorrow, gotta do this now or never, no time to collect everything. Here are some basic materials. I'll attach an article that's a meta analysis of empirical studies and some original data on farmer welfare prompted by the suicide stories. Comments welcome. In haste, ron

*Ronald J. Herring*  
*Professor of Government and International Professor of Agriculture and Rural Development*  
*Director of Placement*  
*Fellow, Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future*  
*313 White Hall*  
*Cornell University*  
*Ithaca NY 14853 USA*

-

---

**From:** Ronald J Herring <[ronherring@cornell.edu](mailto:ronherring@cornell.edu)>  
**Date:** Monday, August 17, 2015 at 10:25 PM  
**To:** Joan Conrow <[joanconrow@gmail.com](mailto:joanconrow@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Sarah Nell Davidson <[snd2@cornell.edu](mailto:snd2@cornell.edu)>, "Jeremy J. Veverka" <[jiv11@cornell.edu](mailto:jiv11@cornell.edu)>  
**Subject:** FW: More on Indian Suicides: Brookings Study

The debt story is not solid, but a common trope.

I've worked in Warangal. There are other persuasive accounts, including bounties paid by state govts for suicides: Andhra Pradesh is the highest in the country, Warangal once the suicide capital in terms of compensation. As one farmer told me, yes, we got the compensation, we also got a nice crop. The most desperate people in the suicide story empirically seem to be housewives and small businessmen (see Brookings) — the former not likely to be indebted for seeds. See Sadanandan's study and my comments below ron

---

**From:** Ronald J Herring <[ronherring@cornell.edu](mailto:ronherring@cornell.edu)>  
**Date:** Monday, July 27, 2015 at 11:25 AM  
**To:** "AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com" <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>  
**Cc:** Ronald J Herring <[ronherring@cornell.edu](mailto:ronherring@cornell.edu)>  
**Subject:** More on Indian Suicides: Brookings Study

This may be of interest for several reasons; see attached and links below.

The narrative itself is without empirical foundation but has been extremely influential. And consequential. Prince Charles gave it a boost in Delhi in 2008 'I blame GM crops for farmer suicides.'

The economics don't work out in the narrative of Bt cotton killing farmers, as is well established. But it's an awkward empirical question. No one who is serious about this question trusts the data, but they may be skewed in similar ways over time and categories. And they are all we have. Moreover, motivation is inherently difficult to untangle; studies in Karnataka and Punjab indicated predictable antecedents: alcoholism, depression, family crises, etc.

One interesting finding, consistent with other studies of rural India, is that most crises happen not from adding a trait to a crop, but from health and other family crises. And farmers are not more likely to respond with such an extreme act than other small-scale business owners or even housewives. Note that the safest professions to be in are 'retirement' and Government service.

A link to the Indian Express article is embedded below, as well as text.

The common narrative is that debt drives farmer suicides. But of course we know from dozens of studies that Bt cotton is unlikely



to increase debt loads, usually the opposite. Moreover, of all the crops in India, none correlates with regional suicide rates; the highest rates are in Kerala where essentially no cotton at all is grown (a bit in Palakkad district). It's not about crops or genes.

A colleague at Syracuse Anoop Sadanandan discusses these findings in various papers; he reviews the literature and looks especially at debt nexus, finds financial markets more important than agricultural costs and returns. A link to one of his papers is below. Anoop does think debt is central, but of course debt can arise from many causes — from gambling to medical crisis.

Ron

---

**From:** Anoop <[anoop.sadanandan@gmail.com](mailto:anoop.sadanandan@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 10:58 AM  
**To:** Ronald J Herring <[ronherring@cornell.edu](mailto:ronherring@cornell.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: suicides yet again

Hi Ron,

In India now. The published paper's on my website: [www.anoopsadanandan.com](http://www.anoopsadanandan.com)

Eager to get back to the US.

Cheers,  
Anoop

## India's suicide problem

Author: Shamika Ravi

Publication: The Indian Express

Date: July 21, 2015

URL: <http://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/indias-suicide-problem/99/>

Response to the crisis of farmer suicides is narrowly focused. Poor health accounts for most suicides, necessitating improved access to healthcare rather than special packages

For over a decade, farmer suicides in India has been a serious public policy concern. More recently, this has led to a shrill media outcry and much politicking. The government response to the crisis of farmer suicide has mostly been simplistic and sometimes aggravating. The main issue with offering “special packages” to deal with such a problem is that it is reactionary rather than preemptive long-term policy. Suicides are characterised by a prior history of difficulties and, in most cases, mental illness that renders the person vulnerable to suicidal behaviour, for which we need to have a deeper understanding of factors that trigger and contribute to suicides among different demographic categories. We study the data from the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) of India and disaggregate across demographics and leading causes of suicides.

We examine existing data on the suicide mortality rate (SMR), defined as the number of suicides reported per 1,00,000 population for categories such as farmers, housewives and students. We begin with farmer suicides and the state of Maharashtra, which had the largest number of farmer suicides for decades. We find that 76 per cent of all suicides there are concentrated within six districts, and nearly 60 per cent of the farmers who committed suicide own more than four acres of land. Indebtedness has been highlighted as the prime cause and leading public intellectuals have called for an end to the “debt deaths”. The National Sample Survey data suggests that the debt burden, measured as the debt-to-asset ratio, declines with increase in asset-holding. So poorer households have a higher debt burden. This is true for both institutional and non-institutional debt. However, the suicide data reported by the state government indicates that the incidence of suicide is much higher for households with larger land holdings. Nearly 86 per cent of all farmer suicides in Maharashtra are committed by those with more than two acres of land.

Compare the two most farmer-suicide-prone states of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh with two of the most backward states, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Data for farmer SMR reveals that over the last two decades, Andhra and Maharashtra have had very high and significantly rising numbers of suicides. Farmer suicide rates in Bihar and UP have been consistently low over that period. However, there are no obvious reasons to believe that farmer distress is lower in Bihar and UP. Remarkably, even if we look at the number of suicides for categories of professions unrelated to farming, like government and private services or students, Andhra and Maharashtra report a significantly higher number of suicides in each category compared to UP and Bihar.

Most policy interventions have been limited to forgiving institutional debt, so we study the leading causes for suicides. Approximately 30 per cent of all suicides in Andhra-Maharashtra are farmer suicides, while only 5 per cent of all suicides are due to debt or bankruptcy. So there are clearly other, more important factors that should explain farmer

suicides even within this region. We find that less than 5 per cent of suicides were caused due to debt or bankruptcy and, in stark contrast, poor health (mental and physical) accounted for approximately 30 per cent of all suicides in these states. It is worth noting that even for the country as a whole, poor health leads to more than seven times as many suicides as compared to debt or bankruptcy. So health reform, particularly in rural areas, is likely to have far greater impact on distress and suicides than forgiving institutional loans.

Studying the data for all suicides in India, we note that over the decades housewives have consistently reported significantly more suicides than any other demographic category. They account for 20 per cent of all suicides in India, while farmers account for less than 12 per cent. Both these numbers are high, but the trends show a decline, and farmer suicides have seen the fastest decline.

“Health” and “family problems” explain nearly half the suicides in the country. Other reported reasons such as “poverty”, “unemployment”, “love affairs” and “indebtedness” are relatively small causes. The largest share of suicides is committed by housewives, whose concerns can also be addressed through improved access to mental and physical healthcare. It is imperative to design interventions that can address distress among various demographic groups, and not aggravate the problem by focusing on indebtedness alone.

The American Association of Suicidology reports that over 90 per cent of suicide victims have a significant psychiatric illness at the time of their death. These are often undiagnosed, untreated or both. People who become suicidal in response to recent events generally have underlying mental problems, though they may be well-hidden. A 2008 report on farmer suicides from the Maharashtra government claimed that depression, illness, family disputes and addiction are common “other” causes of suicide among farmers. Research indicates that during the period immediately after a suicide, public responses may be extreme, and underlying causes may be oversimplified. The main concern is that dramatising the impact of suicide through descriptions and pictures of grieving relatives or community expressions of grief may encourage potential victims. Suicide becomes an acceptable reaction to a situation. This is what perpetuates suicide contagion. In India, this appears to be the case among the farming and student communities, both of which have witnessed highly publicised suicide outbreaks.

Research on suicides has shown that sensitive reporting by the media can play an important role in saving lives and preventing copycat suicides. There is consensus from several studies that prominent newspaper or television coverage of a suicide or cluster has the effect of increasing suicidal behaviour. The magnitude of the increase is related to the amount of publicity given to the story. Sensitive reporting can minimise the risk of suicide contagion. The media must have a code of ethics and guidelines for reporting suicides, and journalists should be trained on how to report suicides.

This research was conducted with inputs from Mudit Kapoor, visiting fellow, IDFC Institute. Ravi is fellow, Brookings India.

--

**From:** [Val Giddings](#)  
**To:** [Chassy, Bruce M](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Chatter: Another look at believability of glyphosate chelating claims  
**Date:** Monday, April 16, 2012 3:29:25 PM

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**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** Wayne Parrott  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2011 10:26 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Another look at believability of glyphosate chelating claims

While we are at it, I asked our weed scientist (William Vencill) what oxidizing agents were and to evaluate the comment made by the other Michael McNeil:

Researchers are finding impacts on livestock that eat GE feed as well.  
Michael McNeill, PhD, an agronomist with Ag Advisory Ltd. in Algona, IA, told Boulder Weekly that he and his colleagues are seeing a higher incidence of infertility and early-term abortion in cattle and hogs that are fed on GMO crops. He adds that poultry fed on the suspect crops have been exhibiting reduced fertility rates too.

and his comments in the Boulder Weekly at <http://www.boulderweekly.com/article-6211-expert-gmos-to-blame-for-problems-in-plants-animals.html> Bill's answer is as follows:

"Glyphosate is a chelating agent which is why growers have to add ammonium sulfate with hard water to keep the Ca and Mg ions from deactivating the glyphosate. There are two fallacies in this article. Growers do not apply more glyphosate when resistance occurs. They could not afford it and it still would not work and it you would get to the point of overwhelming a glyphosate resistant crop. The second deals with scale. How much glyphosate would a grower have to apply to chelate nutrients in the soil? A whole lot more than a pound per acre. This reminds me of a seminar I helped with a few years ago. The students were giving presentations and discussing how herbicides affect soil structure. I asked them what was the typical rate of a herbicide. One said a ton to the acre. When I gave a surprised look, another said 500 lbs/A. The rates are too low for glyphosate to affect ions in the soil; it usually the other way around. The soil components immediately inactivate the glyphosate."

On 8/23/2011 9:16 AM, Klaus Ammann wrote:

Dear Marc, here the full set of conference papers from 2009

As far as I can see, there are only a few hard facts, the rest is assumptions and a very transparent politics to get research money for things which are published long ago. notice our special friend Don Huber with two papers...

**Bonini, E.A., Ferrarese, M.L.L., Marchiosi, R., Zonetti, P.C , & Ferrarese-Filho, O. (2009)**

A simple chromatographic assay to discriminate between glyphosate-resistant and susceptible soybean (*Glycine max*) cultivars. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 173-176  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000598> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Bonini-Simple-chromatographic-assay-2009.pdf>

**Cakmak, I., Yazici, A., Tutus, Y , & Ozturk, L. (2009)**

Glyphosate reduced seed and leaf concentrations of calcium, manganese, magnesium, and iron in non-glyphosate resistant soybean. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 114-119  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000665> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Cakmak-Glyphosate-Reduced-Seed-Leaf-2009.pdf>

**Editorial (2009)**

Acknowledgements. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp iv-iv  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000707> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Editorial-Acknowledgements-2009.pdf>

**Fernandez, M.R., Zentner, R.P., Basnyat, P., Gehl, D., Selles, F., & Huber, D. (2009)**

Glyphosate associations with cereal diseases caused by *Fusarium* spp. in the Canadian Prairies. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 133-143  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000689> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Fernandez-Glyphosate-Associations-2009.pdf>

**Johal, G.S. & Huber, D.M. (2009)**

Glyphosate effects on diseases of plants. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 144-152  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000628> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Johal-Glyphosate-Effects-2009.pdf>

**Johnson, W.G., Davis, V.M., Kruger, G.R , & Weller, S.C. (2009)**

Influence of glyphosate-resistant cropping systems on weed species shifts and glyphosate-resistant weed populations. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 162-172  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000604> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Johnson-Influence-Glyphosate-Resistance-2009.pdf>

**Kremer, R.J. & Means, N.E. (2009)**

Glyphosate and glyphosate-resistant crop interactions with rhizosphere microorganisms. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 153-161  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000641> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Kremer-Glyphosate-Interactions-2009.pdf>

**Senem Su, Y., Ozturk, L., Cakmak, I., & Budak, H. (2009)**

Turfgrass species response exposed to increasing rates of glyphosate application. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 120-125  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000616> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Su-Turfgrass-Species-Response-2009.pdf>

**Tesfamariam, T., Bott, S., Cakmak, I., Römhild, V., & Neumann, G. (2009)**

Glyphosate in the rhizosphere--Role of waiting times and different glyphosate binding forms in soils for phytotoxicity to non-target plants. *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 126-132  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S116103010900063X> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Tesfamariam-Glyphosate-Rhizosphere-2009.pdf>

**Yamada, T., Kremer, R.J., de Camargo e Castro, P.R., & Wood, B.W. (2009)**

Glyphosate interactions with physiology, nutrition, and diseases of plants: Threat to agricultural sustainability? *European Journal of Agronomy*, 31, 3, pp 111-113  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1161030109000690> AND <http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Yamada-Glyphosate-Interactions-2009.pdf>

Here some comprehensive and *scientific* Monsanto comments:

<http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Monsanto-CPU-Glyphosate-Micronutrients-2011.pdf>

<http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Monsanto-on-Huber-Novel-Pathogen-20110224.pdf>

<http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Monsanto-Technical-Comments-Huber-20110707.pdf>

and a special mention to the biofortified website on the topic, excellent summaries

<http://www.biofortified.org/2011/02/glyphosate/>  
<http://www.biofortified.org/2011/02/extraordinary-claims/>

some helpful glyphosate slides, as usual with full text references

<http://www.ask-force.org/web/HerbizideTol/Glyphosate-Slides-2011.ppt>

and my latest summary of 'Reduced Tillage' references with full text links:

<http://www.ask-force.org/web/Tillage/Bibliography-Notillage-20110820.pdf>

cheers, Klaus

On 8/23/2011 12:18 PM, Marc Fellous wrote:

Pr Marc FELLOUS  
Genetique Humaine  
Emerit Université Denis Diderot

Cochin Institute, Inserm567  
24 rue du Faubourg St-Jacques  
75014 Paris

Tel : (33) 01 44412318

Fax : (33) 01 44412302

Début du message réexpédié :

**De :** Georges PELLETIER <[georges.pelletier@versailles.inra.fr](mailto:georges.pelletier@versailles.inra.fr)>

**Date :** 23 août 2011 10:53:19 HAEC

**À :** Marc Fellous <[marc.fellous@inserm.fr](mailto:marc.fellous@inserm.fr)>

**Objet :** Rép : Chatter: Corroborating Huber

Ci joint 2 papiers du même auteur.

C'est du 2009!

Le 23 août 2011 à 04:56, Marc Fellous a écrit :

Bonjour georges tu aurais accès a l'European Journal of  
Agronomy? pour lire ce travail?

Merci

Pr Marc FELLOUS

Genetique Humaine

Emerit Université Denis Diderot

Cochin Institute, Inserm567

24 rue du Faubourg St-Jacques

75014 Paris

Tel : (33) 01 44412318

Fax : (33) 01 44412302

Début du message réexpédié :

Thanks Andrew.

Is this USDA position or one scientist speculating from his/her view point? I  
thought some time ago, USDA put out a note stating that they were not  
supporting this viewpoint.

And since safety requires some specification of metrics- safety of which  
plants (RR crops or non RR material?) and safety in comparison to which  
other alternate treatments? How were these assessed?

If anyone has Dr. Kremer's presentation and the European Journal of  
Agronomy paper that he has suggested as a peer reviewed publication on  
the topic, I would very much appreciate receiving a copy of the same.

Kish

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew Apel <[aapel@wildblue.net](mailto:aapel@wildblue.net)>

To: [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)

Sent: Mon, Aug 22, 2011 4:20 pm

Subject: Chatter: Corroborating Huber

Roundup May Be Damaging Soil and Reducing Yields,  
Says USDA

eNews Park Forest

August 22, 2011

[http://www.ewnewsf.com/latest-news/science-a-  
environmental/26292-roundup-may-be-damaging-soil-and-](http://www.ewnewsf.com/latest-news/science-a-environmental/26292-roundup-may-be-damaging-soil-and-)

[reducing-yields-says-usda.html](http://reducing-yields-says-usda.html)

[excerpted]

Reuters reported that Robert Kremer, PhD, a microbiologist with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, told the audience at the August 12, 2011 conference sponsored by the Organization for Competitive Markets that repeated use of the herbicide glyphosate, the key ingredient in Roundup herbicide, impacts the root structure of plants, and 15 years of research indicates that the chemical could be causing fungal root disease.

Researchers are finding impacts on livestock that eat GE feed as well. Michael McNeill, PhD, an agronomist with Ag Advisory Ltd. in Algona, IA, told Boulder Weekly that he and his colleagues are seeing a higher incidence of infertility and early-term abortion in cattle and hogs that are fed on GMO crops. He adds that poultry fed on the suspect crops have been exhibiting reduced fertility rates too.

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TANIMURA, RYUTARO [AG/5270]; TAKAMOTO, KEI [AG-Contractor/5270]; SASAKI, YUKIE [AG/5270]; UCHIDA, TAKESHI [AG/5270]; GLENN, KEVIN C [AG/1000]; KRONENBERG, JOEL M [AG/1000]

**Subject:** RE: Please Read: Chatter: Russian hamsters are big news

I have already reviewed this as I googled the National Association of Gene Security this afternoon and saw the Huffington article which I have read. Jeff Smith has also latched on to this as you indicated. His article as usual is full of misinformation and makes Ermakova appear to be a martyr. As is typical, these folks release their findings to the media before anyone has a chance to actually review the data. From Jeff Smith's article, the group sizes were small, only 5 hamsters/group. Then there is the high mortality in later generations and the comments about hair growing out of their mouths which sounds bizarre. Hopefully people will look at these reports with some suspicion given the biases of Jeff Smith and others. Until we have some data to review, it will be hard to comment on the adequacy/accuracy of the study findings. Toxicologists do not use hamsters routinely, and reproduction studies are rarely done based on a limited search I did. More fun to come.

---

**From:** SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 21, 2010 4:42 PM

**To:** HAMMOND, BRUCE G [AG/1000]; NAKAI, SHUICHI [AG/5270]; GLENN, KEVIN C [AG/1000]; GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A [AG/1000]; VELCEV, MARIN [AG/6170]; BOYKO, NIKOLAY [AG/6080]

**Cc:** YAMANE, SEIICHIRO [AG/5270]; MURAYAMA, KAORI [AG/5270]; ARII, AYA [AG/5270]; TAKEMOTO, AYANO [AG/5270]; GOTO, HIDETOSHI [AG/5270]; TANIMURA, RYUTARO [AG/5270]; TAKAMOTO, KEI [AG-Contractor/5270]; SASAKI, YUKIE [AG/5270]; UCHIDA, TAKESHI [AG/5270]

**Subject:** Please Read: Chatter: Russian hamsters are big news

Bruce – this posting by Andy Apel is useful, especially the link below to the article by Jeffrey Smith. The article includes information Smith received from Alexei Surov and more details about the experiment and data. I don't know if it will shed any new light on the findings but please take a look. Also important, the article claims the study will be published in July 2010.

Eric

---

**From:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com) [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]

**On Behalf Of** Andrew Apel

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 21, 2010 1:37 PM

**To:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)

**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Russian hamsters are big news

Friends,



Jeffrey Smith has picked up the Russian hamster story -- on the Huffington Post, no less. This gives Smith access to a much broader audience than usual, and given its political leanings, it's an ideal audience for his purposes. Smith says that the work of Alexei Surov with hamsters builds upon Ermakova's work with rats. His article offers details of the hamster experiments which are not found elsewhere, which suggests that Smith is corresponding directly with Surov. [1]

There is a connection between Ermakova and Surov. Their experiments were sponsored by the National Association for Gene Security (NAGS). [2]

NAGS also goes by the name Russian Association of Genetic Safety (RAGS), and is a coalition of more than 30 Russian public, political and scientific organizations. [3]

The president of NAGS is Alexander Baranov. [4] It appears he is also with the Scientific Center of Children Health, Russian Academy of Science, Pediatricians Union of Russia, Moscow. [5] Interestingly, Ermakova is also a member of the Russian Academy of Science. [6]

Coalitions are very difficult to track. They are seldom funded directly, and often do not have a unique postal address. That appears to be the case with NAGS/RAGS.

We may have a mess on our hands.

-----

1. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeffrey-smith/genetically-modified-soy\\_b\\_544575.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeffrey-smith/genetically-modified-soy_b_544575.html)
2. [http://www.gmfrecymru.org/pivotal\\_papers/ermakova.htm](http://www.gmfrecymru.org/pivotal_papers/ermakova.htm)
3. <http://news.russiannewsroom.com/details.aspx?item=1931>
4. [http://www.biotech-weblog.com/50226711/genetically\\_modified\\_soy\\_in\\_russia.php](http://www.biotech-weblog.com/50226711/genetically_modified_soy_in_russia.php)
5. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/civil8/cg8060310-participants.html>
6. [http://www.zoominfo.com/people/Ermakova\\_Irina\\_864689716.aspx](http://www.zoominfo.com/people/Ermakova_Irina_864689716.aspx)

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**From:** [Chassy, Bruce M](#)  
**To:** [GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A \(AG/1000\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Huber  
**Date:** Monday, April 16, 2012 4:02:36 PM

---

i can

On Apr 16, 2012, at 3:58 PM, GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A (AG/1000) wrote:

Looking.... Can't get on [Monsanto.com](#)..... not sure what the problem is...

Dan

---

**From:** Chassy, Bruce M [mailto:[bchassy@illinois.edu](mailto:bchassy@illinois.edu)]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 3:52 PM  
**To:** GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A [AG/1000]  
**Cc:** SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Huber

Dan

Thanks. Are these on your glyphosate web page? I already sent that link.

Bruce

On Apr 16, 2012, at 3:48 PM, GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A (AG/1000) wrote:

Bruce-

Good to know what the good Dr. Huber is up too this week!! I have attached the "collection" of 3<sup>rd</sup> party responses. Sorry about the brief delay- there has been some "link drift" since this was compiled and I had to re-validate and replace several of the links.

There has not been a lot said since the early "dust-up"- and in fact we have reason to believe that the administration at Purdue may have discouraged additional public commentary around Huber just to avoid an ugly looking spectacle.

We have public response documents as well on a variety of issues. I hate to clog your inbox on the road- let me know if they would be useful (and you may have them already) These include:

- Human health allegations
- Animal Health allegations
- Glyphosate and micronutrients

Fate of glyphosate- translocation and exudation in soil  
Glyphosate and soil microbes  
Glyphosate and plant diseases  
Crop Yield- allegations vs facts

---

**From:** SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 3:15 PM  
**To:** GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A [AG/1000]  
**Subject:** FW: Chatter: Huber

Please help Bruce

---

**From:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com) [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com] **On**  
**Behalf Of** Bruce Chassy  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 3:11 PM  
**To:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)  
**Subject:** Chatter: Huber

Esteemed Colleagues,

The infamous Professor Huber from Purdue is running around South Africa creating quite a bit of panic in the media. I am trying to chase down what Huber's former colleagues at Purdue have said about him. Can anyone point me to a collection of those?

Thanks

Bruce

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**From:** [Chassy, Bruce M](#)  
**To:** [GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A \(AG/1000\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Huber  
**Date:** Monday, April 16, 2012 4:17:37 PM

---

Dan

Now I can't get on your page either. It must have gone down. You've probably been hacked by Huber.

Bruce

On Apr 16, 2012, at 3:48 PM, GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A (AG/1000) wrote:

Bruce-

Good to know what the good Dr. Huber is up too this week!! I have attached the "collection" of 3<sup>rd</sup> party responses. Sorry about the brief delay- there has been some "link drift" since this was compiled and I had to re-validate and replace several of the links.

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- Animal Health allegations
- Glyphosate and micronutrients
- Fate of glyphosate- translocation and exudation in soil
- Glyphosate and soil microbes
- Glyphosate and plant diseases
- Crop Yield- allegations vs facts

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**From:** SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 3:15 PM  
**To:** GOLDSTEIN, DANIEL A [AG/1000]  
**Subject:** FW: Chatter: Huber

Please help Bruce

---

**From:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com) [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com] **On**  
**Behalf Of** Bruce Chassy

**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 3:11 PM  
**To:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)  
**Subject:** Chatter: Huber

Esteemed Colleagues,

The infamous Professor Huber from Purdue is running around South Africa creating quite a bit of panic in the media. I am trying to chase down what Huber's former colleagues at Purdue have said about him. Can anyone point me to a collection of those?

Thanks

Bruce

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**From:** [Chassy, Bruce](#)  
**To:** [SACHS, ERIC S \(AG/1000\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Wayne Parrott](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: New issue making the rounds  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 13, 2011 11:40:26 AM

---

Eric

I see the attachment, you want me to send it to chatter for you?

Bruce

On Sep 13, 2011, at 11:32 AM, SACHS, ERIC S (AG/1000) wrote:

Bruce and Wayne,

I attempted from my Blackberry to provide our response to the USGS studies to AgBioChatter. If you don't see it, I wanted you to have it. We will finalize soon but it is in pretty good shape. Given your interest, I hope it helps. Feedback is always welcome.

Regards,

---

**From:** SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 13, 2011 11:26 AM  
**To:** '[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)' <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: New issue making the rounds

Monsanto experts have reviewed these studies and prepared the following background and comment. This is still a draft document but it is sufficiently complete to share with this group and receive your feedback. Our team would welcome your comments.

Due to size, it is necessary to share as an attachment.

Eric

---

**From:** Bruce Chassy [mailto:[Bruce.Chassy@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Bruce.Chassy@ars.usda.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 13, 2011 11:05 AM  
**To:** [AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com) <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: New issue making the rounds

Colleagues,

I downloaded and read these papers quickly. It will be interesting to see if the anti-GM chemophobes try to make anything out of them. This is not my area of science but at first glance the papers seem to be very well planned and executed science. The authors have a publication record of similar kinds of studies. One paper characterizes the amount of glyphosate that gets into the air and where it goes from there; the second characterizes glyphosate in run-off (which turns out to be around 1% of the application). My first impression is that the papers report good observational science directed at assessing how much glyphosate is in water, no more no less. This is useful information. In fact, if you want to spin it, there appears



to be so little run-off and glyphosate is so non-toxic, that one might conclude the findings support continued high level application of glyphosate. The authors, however, avoid all such issues and stick to reporting their observations. That's how I read them anyway.

The papers are very manner of fact and non-inflammatory. They simply measure and report their observations. They do not mention potential effects on biota, nor do they discuss the implications of their measurements for the systems they study; they do note the toxicity (or lack thereof) of glyphosate. In discussing why there is so much glyphosate being used today, in the glyphosate in water paper, the introduction specifically notes that glyphosate is being used on GM crops at very high percentages of the crop planted and it gives examples. The authors go on to say:

Glyphosate use, particularly on GM crops, has replaced the use of other herbicides in the production of row crops. Glyphosate is considered by some to be more environmentally benign in comparison with other herbicides because: (1) it strongly sorbs to soil particles, limiting the potential for transport; (2) it has a shorter half-life compared with many other herbicides; (3) the use of glyphosate has resulted in a reduction in the number of herbicide applications to control weeds; (4) the use of glyphosate results in lower fossil fuel usage owing to an increase in conservation tillage; (5) it has a low toxicity to mammals, birds and most aquatic fauna.<sup>4</sup>

Is this an issue? I think not. Run-off is a fact of life. The actual levels measured are extremely low and such low concentrations in water are highly unlikely to adversely effect biota. Off the top of my head I think they are way too low to do harm to glyphosate's main target, plant cells that might be part of the aqueous system being studied. So be very careful when dealing with claims that it is horrible that glyphosate is everywhere. Point out 1) the paper does not claim harmful effects, 2) reports levels that are far below the known thresholds of glyphosate toxicity, and 3) glyphosate is only present in water because it can replace other more toxic herbicides (as well as support less costly, more efficient, and more eco-friendly production of crops of course).

**TAKE HOME MESSAGE: DOSE AND EXPOSURE MATTERS**, mere presence of a chemical in an ecosystem or ecological niche is by itself meaningless. The antis always conveniently forget this.

Regards

Bruce

---

**From:** Wayne Parrott <[wparrott@uga.edu](mailto:wparrott@uga.edu)>  
**To:** "[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)" <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 13, 2011 7:23 AM  
**Subject:** Chatter: New issue making the rounds

Glyphosate, also known by its tradename Roundup, is commonly found in rain and rivers in agricultural areas in the Mississippi River watershed, according to two new USGS studies released this month.

Glyphosate is used in almost all agricultural and urban areas of the United States. The greatest glyphosate use is in the Mississippi River basin, where most applications are for weed control on genetically-modified corn, soybeans and cotton. Overall, agricultural use of glyphosate has increased from less than 11,000 tons in 1992 to more than 88,000 tons in 2007.

"Though glyphosate is the mostly widely used herbicide in the world, we know very little about its long term effects to the environment," says Paul Capel, USGS chemist and an author on this study. "This study is one of the first to document the consistent occurrence of this chemical in streams, rain and air throughout the growing season. This is crucial information for understanding where management efforts for this chemical would best be focused."

In these studies, Glyphosate was frequently detected in surface waters, rain and air in areas where it is heavily used in the basin. The consistent occurrence of glyphosate in streams and air indicates its transport from its point of use into the broader environment.

Additionally, glyphosate persists in streams throughout the growing season in Iowa and Mississippi, but is generally not observed during other times of the year. The degradation product of glyphosate, aminomethylphosphonic acid (AMPA), which has a longer environmental lifetime, was also frequently detected in streams and rain.

Detailed results of this glyphosate research are available in "Occurrence and fate of the herbicide glyphosate and its degradate aminomethylphosphonic acid in the atmosphere," published in volume 30 of *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* and in "Fate and transport of glyphosate and aminomethylphosphonic acid in surface waters of agricultural basins," published online in *Pest Management Science*. Copies of the reports are available from the journals or from Paul Capel ([capel@usgs.gov](mailto:capel@usgs.gov)).

Research on the transport of glyphosate was conducted as part of the USGS National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) program. The NAWQA program provides an understanding of water-quality conditions, whether conditions are getting better or worse over time, and how natural features and human activities affect those conditions. Additional information on the NAWQA program can be found [online](#).

--

**Wayne Parrott**

Department of Crop & Soil Sciences, and  
Institute for Plant Breeding, Genetics & Genomics  
111 Riverbend Road, University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602-6810  
Phone: 706-542-0928; FAX 706-583-8120  
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<DRAFT- Monsanto comments- USGS research on Glyphosate in water+rain+air-  
VERSION 4.docx>

**From:** 'SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]' eric.s.sachs@monsanto.com [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent time:** 07/17/2014 12:15:09 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com; Nina Vsevolod Fedoroff <Nina.Fedoroff@KAUST.EDU.SA>; Don Kennedy <kennedyd@Stanford.EDU>; Jim Cook <rjcook@wsu.edu>  
**Cc:** Bill Rutter <bill@billrutter.com>; Bob Goldberg <bobg@ucla.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: NAS announces GE Crops Committee  
**Attachments:** image009.jpg image010.jpg

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All,

I agree that it is very important for the committee to hear from the community of experts that have been engaged in communication and education on GMOs for many years. The committee itself includes well-credentialed persons but not all have been close to the GM debate. Here are some thoughts on the elements of the presentation.

The speaker should clearly articulate...

- 1) the importance of the GE committee's work
- 2) the need for clear and unambiguous communication of the evidence supporting the safety and benefits of GM agriculture,
- 3) the consequences to society and the world arising from misleading claims and vilification of agricultural technologies by opponent groups,
- 4) the collateral impacts on public-sector research and crop improvement programs, and
- 5) the critical need to help consumers find and examine reliable information and expose unreliable sources.

Eric

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 16, 2014 6:48 PM  
**To:** 'AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com'; Nina Vsevolod Fedoroff; Don Kennedy; Jim Cook  
**Cc:** Bill Rutter; Bob Goldberg  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: NAS announces GE Crops Committee

There is a place to nominate speakers before the committee....

<http://nas-sites.org/ge-crops/2014/07/14/suggest-an-expert-presenter/>

Perhaps we should nominate one another to maximize chances of selection.....with those of us who wish to do it covering specific aspects (as they will be looking not for generic views, but specific expertise....)

I am happy to speak to them on problems with field research and regulation of trees and other outcrossing perennial plants...but I suspect they have larger fish to fry...

-Steve

Steve Strauss, Professor, Oregon State University

Cell: 541 760 7357 -- <http://people.forestry.oregonstate.edu/steve-strauss/>

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 16, 2014 4:39 PM

**To:** Nina Vsevolod Fedoroff; Don Kennedy; Jim Cook

**Cc:** Bill Rutter; Bob Goldberg

**Subject:** Chatter: NAS announces GE Crops Committee

Dear All,


I hate to say I told you so...but I did. See below the proposed members of the NRC committee that will study "Genetically Engineered Crops: Past Experience and Future Prospects." I don't know most of the members, but the ones I am familiar with are awful -- Fred Gould, who is unreliable on his best days, and Mike Rodemeyer, a troglodyte/lawyer who was Executive Director of the inept, biased, now-defunct Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology. Where are the icons of the scientific community who produced the 1987 NAS and 1989 NRC reports -- the likes of Roger Beachy, Nina Fedoroff, Jim Cook, Simon Levin, Cal Qualset, Rob Fraley and Ann Vidaver? Where are Bruce Chassy, Wayne Parrott, Bob Goldberg, Drew Kershen, Steve Strauss, John Cohrssen, et al?

The single most important recommendation that we need from such a study is that regulation of field trials and commercialization must become scientifically defensible and risk-based. I believe the probability of getting that from this group approaches zero.

This study will likely reflect discredit on the Academy -- as did its disgraceful 2000 and 2002 studies of government regulation of agbiotech -- and once again, I intend to be first in line to write about it.

Meanwhile, I urge you to comment on the membership of the committee, as the announcement requests.

Henry




The National Research Council (NRC) has proposed a committee slate for its new study, "Genetically Engineered Crops: Past Experience and Future Prospects." The committee was drawn from nominations submitted, considering the full range of expertise and experience needed to address the study's statement of task. The public can comment on the committee's composition for the next 20 days. To view the committee membership, [click here](#). To provide a comment, [click here](#).

The study will provide an independent, objective examination of what has been learned since the introduction of GE crops based on current evidence. The study will assess whether initial concerns and promises were realized and will investigate new concerns and recent claims. The committee will produce a consensus report with findings and recommendations that will be available to the public upon its release (expected completion date is early 2016), after undergoing a rigorous external peer-review process.

The kick-off meeting for the study will be held on September 15-17, 2014 (agenda to come). The public is invited to the afternoon session on Monday, September 15, and the morning and afternoon sessions on Tuesday, September 16. A time for the public to provide their comments to the committee will be held at the end of each meeting day. Please [register to attend the meeting](#) in person or via webcast.

Subscribe for updates about the study [here](#).



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**Henry I. Miller, M.D.**  
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**& Public Policy**  
**Hoover Institution | Stanford University**

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**U.S.A.**

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Posted by: "SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]" <[eric.s.sachs@monsanto.com](mailto:eric.s.sachs@monsanto.com)>

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**From:** 'SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]' eric.s.sachs@monsanto.com [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent time:** 09/07/2014 06:15:54 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: NRC Panel - Another Perspective

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Dear AgBioChatter Group:

I have followed closely the concerns that many of you have expressed regarding the NRC Panel process. Clearly, the makeup of panel and the public hearing process has struck an emotional chord in our group. What is the NRC doing? Why establish a panel comprised primarily of subject matter experts but with little direct experience with GM crops research, development, regulation, safety assessment, and most importantly, with evaluating the dozens of studies claiming harms that have been widely reviewed and discredited by numerous scientific bodies and regulatory authorities globally?

I admit that initially I had a similar reaction. As many of you know, for the past 15 years my responsibilities have included examining agenda-driven studies and working to expose their failings and challenge the authors' false claims. While I believe these efforts have been important, the fact is that there is fear and misunderstanding in the public and with many policy makers globally. To make progress we need to engage skeptical lay audiences in a different manner.

When the NAS announced this NRC Panel, I was excited about the possibility of putting all of the faulty science and claims into the crucible of science and producing clear and concise conclusions that once and for all would discredit those peddling fear over facts and lay the foundation for moving forward. The reality is that the battle is not in the scientific arena but in the societal arena. It is critical that we engage society at the foundation of their fear and mistrust of science and GMOs. This is what I believe the NRC Panel is attempting to do.

In my view, the panel wants to demonstrate that they will listen and consider different perspectives, even from individuals that promote pseudoscience and grab the headlines by spreading fear and lies. Have we all considered that the NRC Panel may believe that an inclusive approach based on listening and consideration of different perspectives is more likely to achieve greater acceptance of its findings and recommendations to the public? Instead of railing against their process, we should be looking for ways to share the enormous knowledge and experience in the group. We should help the panel to separate the social concerns from those concerns that can be assessed by a rigorous, evidence-based approach; and we should acknowledge the political and policy issues that are undeniable in the food and agricultural arena – both are important in order to make the case for sound policy-making that is blind to fear of technology and that supports a diversity of approaches for addressing global agricultural challenges.

In the end, I believe the NRC Panel will follow the science and build a case for GM crop safety and benefits. More importantly, if the process is viewed as open and transparent then there will be a real opportunity to help the public that is skeptical but not chained to ideology to ignore unsubstantiated claims and accept that GMOs deliver important benefits with minimal risks.

So where do we go from here? I recommend that our group lay aside its frustrations with the process and think about ways to help the NRC Panel to do its job well.

We should:

- Limit attacks on the critics and instead show the NRC panel how critic's allegations have been examined and dismissed repeatedly by regulatory agencies and scientific authorities around the world.
- Acknowledge there are strongly held beliefs and recognize that a open, inclusive, and rigorous examination of the evidence will help the public at large to move past fear and uncertainty to a broader acceptance of technology-based approaches for addressing global agricultural challenges.
- Challenge claims by critics that their arguments have been validated and supported by the NRC process and expose the failings in methodology, data collection, analysis, and a lack of scientific support for their claims.
- Send the message that the science community welcomes that NRC Panel's approach and are confident that the panel ultimately will establish a strong case for sound policy-making that is blind to the fear of technology and that promotes a diversity of solution options to meet future needs.

I recognize that my perspective on this NRC Panel may appear overly optimistic, even naïve to some of you. I assure you that my years of fighting for acceptance of GM crops demonstrates that I am neither. I am simply willing to follow a different approach based on a lot of dialogue and engagement with persons (mostly non-scientists) that tell me to listen more and explain less. I am open to the NRC's process and hopeful it will deliver results. I don't see an alternative approach that has much chance of reaching a fearful and confused public. Let's all try to help the NRC, not fight it.

Eric

Eric Sachs, PhD  
Regulatory Policy & Scientific Affairs

Social, Economic & Environment Platform  
Desk: (314) 694-1709  
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**From:** Adrienne Massey <amassey@bio.org>  
**Sent time:** 09/12/2013 02:24:54 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** RE: Chatter: Is anyone familiar with the African anti-GMO group PELUM?

---

Pelum Association (Participatory Land Use and Management--PELUM) is a pan-African organization, and Richard Mugisha (author of the article you attached) is its Policy, Advocacy and Campaign Manager. Pelum, VEDCO/Food Rights Alliance, SEATIN, Eastern and Southern African Small Scale Farmers' Association (EASSAF) have formed an alliance to reverse recent successes in ag biotech research and development in Uganda.

The Ugandan scientists developing/field testing GE crops invited PELUM and similar local NGOs ( e.g VEDCO, ActionAid International, Caritas International) to their research stations a few years ago in hopes of educating them before the anti's got to them. They have been stunned by the things Mugisha and others have done, because they actually thought providing the facts would inoculate them from misinformation.

PELUM has been successful in enlisting help in demonizing the technology from a couple of scientists at a local, respected ag university (Makerere), Olupot Giregon (College of Agriculture ) and Chris Bakuneta (College of Natural Sciences).

The Ugandan NGOs, which were newcomers to the game a couple of years ago, linked up with veterans: Daniel Maingi (Kenya Biodiversity Coalition) and Mariam Mayet (Africa Center for Biosafety - South Africa), who in turn have connected the Ugandans to their donors and have done in-country training.

I assume if Mark identifies the funding sources for Maingi and Mayet, he will be well on his way to identifying funding for PELUM.

The most harmful people in Uganda are Agnes Kirabo (VEDCO/FRA), Richard Mugisha, Giregon Olupo, Chris Bakuneta and people at Caritas, whose names escape me. They have radio programs, have generated regional petitions to send to key MPs, and have developed radio programs and local meetings to encourage voters to recall MPs that support ag biotech.

BTW, Richard Mugisha's article was published in *The Red Paper*, Ugandan daily tabloid with a countrywide circulation that is believed by many. Anyone who is willing to buy column inches gets to write a story.

Am not sure any of this will get Mark what he needs, but perhaps it's a start. I can direct him to in-country contact people if he is interested.

Adrienne

---

**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com [mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** Jon Entine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 1:03 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Chatter: Is anyone familiar with the African anti-GMO group PELUM? [1 Attachment]

**[Attachment(s) from Jon Entine included below]**

Mark Lynas has asked me if I have information on PELUM, which is known to spread anti-science propaganda in Africa, including that GMOs causes kids to become gay. Here is an article just the other day spreading "facts" of the harmful effects of GMOs. He's interested in doing a 'funding' story if

anyone has any insights.

Jon Entine

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## Bob Taylor

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2015 5:13 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Great overview of food trends

Do not miss the slides at

<https://www.kansascityfed.org/~media/files/publicat/rscp/2015/4-demographic%20trends-mccluskey.pdf?la=en>

[http://www.agweb.com/blog/the-farm-cpa-243/organic-conventional-or-gmo/?mkt\\_tok=3RkMMJWWfF9wsRons6TPZKXonjHpfsX77%2BovX6Gg38431UFwdcjKPmjr1YEFTMJ0aPyQAgobGp5I5FEATrPYRadit6IEWA%3D%3D](http://www.agweb.com/blog/the-farm-cpa-243/organic-conventional-or-gmo/?mkt_tok=3RkMMJWWfF9wsRons6TPZKXonjHpfsX77%2BovX6Gg38431UFwdcjKPmjr1YEFTMJ0aPyQAgobGp5I5FEATrPYRadit6IEWA%3D%3D)

Jul 27, 2015

The Federal Reserve of Kansas City just had their annual Ag Symposium about two weeks ago. One of the presentations was by Jill McCluskey, a professor at Washington State University on the demographic trends and consumer preferences regarding food. The highlights of her presentation were as follows:

- Processed and fast food is the old trend - Farmers' markets and Whole Foods is the idealized preference for most consumers now.
- Increased influence of the "Food Elite" and consumer expectations. Good Equals GM-Free, Cage Free, no added hormones, etc. Sustainable, Organic, Natural ....
- Food consumption as part of your identity. Can be aspirational or a sign of fashion.
- The Organic Revolution shows no signs of slowing down. Organic is viewed as healthy, even if the food looks like an Oreo.
- Rejection of GM foods. Consumer's willingness to pay (WTP) creates large discounts for GMO food compared to organic (or in some cases natural). This discount can exceed 60%.
- Decline of traditional fast food. Changing consumer tastes; Increased competition. PAST: Leaders in restaurant associations "healthy choices don't sell." NOW: Restaurants with healthier choices are more popular (at least perceived healthier).
- Food Explorers: THEN: Brand Loyalty. NOW: Novelty, style and quality is much more important than the brand (craft beers versus brand name beers, etc.).

To feed the world will continue to require technology (GM Foods, etc.). The important part to realize is the consumer does not like this idea (even if science says it is not harmful). American agriculture will continue to need to tell their story since the trend to "healthier" food is here to stay (at least for the near term).a

--  
Wayne Parrott  
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Institute for Plant Breeding, Genetics & Genomics  
111 Riverbend Road, University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602-6810  
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[Lab Web Site](#)

## Bob Taylor

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014 7:45 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Anyone have access to this reference?

I am curious as to the bottom line-- amount of CO<sub>2</sub>eqs they get per kg of milk.

[http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13165-014-0080-4?wt\\_mc=alerts.TOCjournals](http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13165-014-0080-4?wt_mc=alerts.TOCjournals)

Greenhouse gas emissions from enteric fermentation and manure on organic and conventional dairy farms  
—an analysis based on farm network data

- Sylvia Wamecke,
- Hans Marten Paulsen,
- Franziska Schulz,
- Gerold Rahmann

## Abstract

Feed and manure composition and qualities in an organic and conventional dairy farm network in Germany (22 farm pairs) were analysed. Related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from enteric fermentation and from animal excretions were calculated by using two methods each. Feeding and feedstuff quality were farm specific. On average, organic dairy cows received significantly less concentrates, maize silage and straw and significantly more pasture and hay than conventional dairy cows. No differences were found for feeding grass silage. Results for methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) emissions from enteric fermentation depended strongly on the calculation methodology. They were higher when feed quality was considered as an input parameter (average GHG emissions 3822 and 3759 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. cow<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> on organic and conventional farms) as opposed to when only feed intake was considered (2852 and 3112 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. cow<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>). Differences between the methods were particularly prominent when high amounts of fibre-rich feedstuff were used and, with regard to product-related emissions, at lower milk yields. GHG emissions from manure are also directly connected with feed intake and quality. Manure qualities and storage conditions on the farms were highly variable. On average, the related GHG emission potential was similar in liquid and solid manures (32 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. t<sup>-1</sup> fresh matter). Since feed quality management on farms influences milk yield, enteric CH<sub>4</sub> emissions and manure composition, it should be part of advisory concepts that aim at reducing GHG emissions in milk production. Technical changes in manure storage and handling offer an additional GHG reduction potential.

--

**Wayne Parrott**  
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[Lab Web Site](#)

## Bob Taylor

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**From:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com on behalf of Channa Prakash  
prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu [AgBioChatter] <AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 8:06 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Re: Chatter: Wait, I can do this...

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C S Prakash

On Aug 9, 2015, at 10:21 AM, [kfolta@ufl.edu](mailto:kfolta@ufl.edu) [AgBioChatter] <[AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

I went to delete the account. Turns out I can just participate from Yahoo via the website. This should be okay, as long as I access from home. Crazy.

So I will still be monitoring occasionally, but not participating as much.

kf

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Posted by: Channa Prakash <[prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu](mailto:prakash@mytu.tuskegee.edu)>

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## Bob Taylor

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2015 12:57 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Juan Miguel Mulet - death threats

Juan Miguel Mulet is currently promoting his book, Eating without fear, in Argentina. He has been an ardent critic of junk science and defender of GMOs and the use of glyphosate.

His appearance at the University of Córdoba a couple of days ago had to be cancelled after he received death threats and against which the local authorities thought they could not offer adequate protection.

**I bring the topic up to illustrate the extent to which intimidation has become globalized.**

Here are a couple of translations, courtesy of Google:

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Athens, GA 30602-6810  
Phone: 706-542-0928; FAX 706-583-8120  
[Lab Web Site](#)

"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil  
and you're a thousand miles from the corn field." DD Eisenhower



## Bob Taylor

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2015 12:48 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Juan Miguel Mulet - the snarky professor

Juan Miguel Mulet is a professor of biochemistry in Valencia, Spain. He has become a Neil deGrasse Tyson type of character in the Spanish-speaking world, fighting myths along the way.

If you cannot read Spanish, you should learn it just so that you can read his books. Here is excerpt from 'Eating without fear', that takes on many myths on food, including GMOs in no small measure.

I took the liberty of translating a couple of pages to give you sense of his writing:

### Organic agriculture and biodiversity

Another argument that is commonly heard among agroecologists is the premise that organic agriculture fosters and respects biodiversity. This affirmation has two aspects. What are we talking about? Of the biodiversity of the species we cultivate? Of the biodiversity around the field. When one reads the propaganda it is not easy to know exactly to what they are referring. We shall try to examine both aspects.

Does organic agriculture respect biodiversity around the field? Let's see—the moment when you take a hoe and dig a hole and add a seed, you are irreversibly altering the biodiversity and the ecological equilibrium of that soil. It is not at all uncommon for the farmer to first remove all the weeds from the field prior to planting. The problem is that what a farmer might consider to be a weed, a botanist will consider to be an endemic species of high ecological value and that the farmer is committing a criminal act by removing it and replacing it with a seed, which on top of everything, is not natural and which will impede the free growth of the regional biodiversity. All agricultural activities (cultivation, pest control, etc) have no other purpose than to limit biodiversity so that the seed can grow into a large, healthy plant; for that matter, the farmer tends to refer to natural biodiversity as 'pests', 'weeds', and 'parasites.'

The organic farmer also uses pesticides to control the pests—sorry, the natural biodiversity in the field. For example, copper is a typical fungicide that is used, among other things, as a component of Bordeaux mix for vineyards. With the rain, the copper percolates into the soil and stays there. It is very toxic, especially for earthworms and nematodes, such that an organic field can have less biodiversity in the soil than a conventional one.

Some years ago, there was a project to grow organic custard apples (cherimoyas) in Ecuador. Obviously, as there were no organic standards for its cultivation, so European standards were used, as that was the intended market. To control the main pest (the medfly, a poisonous gift brought over by the Spaniard conquistadores), the only insecticide available was spinosad. The problem is that it also killed the pollinators, so there was no crop. The solution was to bag each flower individually, something that was possible as the cost of labor in Ecuador is so miserably low, but which would never have been possible to do in Europe. Does this sound like neocolonialism and exploitation? No, it is not that; don't be so cynical. After all, we are talking about organic agriculture. Therefore, the best way to protect biodiversity of the soil is not to plant anything or dedicate it to agriculture. The moment a hoe is used, biodiversity has been damaged. Something else that is commonly forgotten by the defenders of organic agriculture when they are not talking about their

method of production and presume that in organic agriculture there is an interaction with its surroundings and the natural environment, is the fact that a large part of organic production—especially that destined for export markets—is grown in greenhouses, under plastic, and in an industrialized way. This makes it impossible to have any interaction with the natural environment; it is impeded by a wall and a acclimatized microhabitat to protect against the sun. The problem is that the plastic from those greenhouses gets into the ocean and ends up assassinating whales- all a cruel paradox.

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"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil  
and you're a thousand miles from the corn field." DD Eisenhower

## Bob Taylor

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2015 1:51 PM  
**To:** agBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** NGOs sue in 15 states to reverse EPA approval of Enlist crops

A court fight over use of a new Dow Chemical herbicide on genetically engineered U.S. corn and soybean crops is growing to encompass 15 Midwestern states after the company recently won federal approval for more widespread application.

Conservationists, food safety and public-health advocates want to block the use of Enlist Duo until the court can consider its impact on human health, said Paul Achitoff, a public interest lawyer for Earthjustice, representing the plaintiffs.

The coalition's original lawsuit filed in October in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals challenged a decision by the Environmental Protection Agency to allow Enlist Duo to be used in six states. A motion filed Monday seeks to add nine states where the EPA approved the herbicide for use on April 1.

Enlist Duo's ingredients include 2,4-D, a component of the defoliant Agent Orange widely used by the U.S. military in the Vietnam War. The substance has been linked to Parkinson's disease, non-Hodgkin lymphoma and reproductive problems, said a statement by plaintiff Center for Food Safety.

Achitoff said the coalition expects a ruling any day on its motion for an emergency stay on the use of the herbicide until the lawsuit is decided.

A spokesperson for the EPA did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The stay motion focuses on what Achitoff said was EPA's failure, prior to registering the herbicide for use, to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the herbicide's impacts on endangered species including the whooping crane, Louisiana black bear and Indiana bat.

Enlist Duo was designed to be a weed killer on fields planted with special soybean and corn seeds genetically engineered by Dow to be resistant to the herbicide.

The Dow herbicide/seed package is part of a second wave of genetically engineered commercial crops. Most of the original group of genetically engineered seeds, called Roundup Ready, were created in the 1990s to be resistant to Monsanto's Roundup herbicide, according to the center.

Over the past 20 years, however, millions of acres of farmland have become infested with Roundup-resistant super weeds, leading to Dow's new formulation.

The case is Center for Food Safety et al v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and intervenor Dow Agrosciences, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, No. 14-73359.

For the petitioners: Paul Achitoff and Gregory Cahill Loarie of Earthjustice, Andrew Kimbrell and Sylvia Wu of the Center for Food Safety

For the respondents: John Brett Grosko and T. Monique Peoples of the U.S. Department of Justice; for Dow Agrosciences, Christopher Landau of Kirkland & Ellis and David Weinberg of Wiley Rein

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 05, 2015 11:10 AM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** Shiva notes

Sorry it has taken me so long to get these out.

These are notes and highlights from Shiva from her Ames Iowa talk. They were compiled by a colleague:

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She started her talk by 'explaining' that 'modern agricultural science was developed to utilize chemicals left over from world war II. And as these chemicals were initially developed to murder millions of jewish people, these tools have not improved since then. Modern agricultural scientists are continuing the work of the Nazis.'

The 'tools' developed for world war II were developed for war, so is it any surprise that where modern agricultural is thriving there is violence? With science comes violence.

Modern agriculture is being used to extend our dependency on fossil fuels. The entire green revolution was created to increase the use and dependency on fertilizers

Golden Rice: we don't need it – just look around and you can see all the vitamin A in really diverse crops. Just eat amaranth. Claims Golden rice just gives you a fragment of the daily nutritional requirement; you'd have to eat 1.6Kg of rice a day to get your daily vitamin A allowance. Amaranth can solve all vitamin A problems.

GMO bananas: It's based on 'biopiracy' because this naturally occurs in Indian bananas and someone just 'popped it out and popped it into a new kind of banana'

GMO plants are sprayed with antibiotics and plants that live are known to be GMO. She further claimed GMO plants compensated for having these genes by developing what is known as the 'shikimate pathway' to get rid of gmo dangers. (I put that in quotes because she said 'shikimate pathway' in a deep evil voice!)

Finally, she spent a lot of time drawing ideas and arguments back to the need for increased biodiversity. Claiming that by increasing biodiversity, nature will take care of all problems (including eliminating human nutrient deficiencies). I think this was supposed to be the theme of her ramblings

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**From:** Wayne Allen Parrott <wparrott@uga.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2015 5:18 PM  
**To:** AgBioChatter@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** APHIS Announces Withdrawal of 2008 Proposed Rule for Biotechnology Regulations

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/stakeholders/downloads/2015/sa\\_withdrawal.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/stakeholders/downloads/2015/sa_withdrawal.pdf)

Folks this is huge. This means there is an outside chance of getting it right this time around. I believe the APHIS folks are that they want to get it right within the constraints of the enabling legislation.

There is no better time for academics to chime in NOW with what regulations should look like.

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