

WILL WE BE FORCED TO EAT GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD?



Part 2 in a 3-Part Series on Food Safety in America

In my last article, I exposed the new Food Safety Bill as a part of a global initiative to control the production of food. The bill has little to do with food safety and a lot to do with making sure large corporations are the only ones in a position to produce our nation's food. One of the other things the new Food Safety Bill does is to lay the groundwork for the implementation of Codex Alimentarius—the initiative intended to block our access to vitamins and dietary supplements. The new bill also paves the way for the forced acceptance of GM (genetically modified) foods.

I have been an active spokesperson against GM foods for many years. Their safety has never been validated. Years after being sold to the world as a technological breakthrough, GM foods are being associated with allergies, toxicity, infertility, infant mortality, immune dysfunction, stunted growth, and accelerated aging. Many people refer to them as “Frankenfoods.” Yet the consequences go far beyond human health issues. Equally disastrous are the ecological and economic issues. GM foods carry a gene that makes it possible for unnatural genetic combinations to survive—sort of like the drugs that keep people from rejecting organ transplants.

However, in the case of genetic manipulation, genes are placed into plants to make them receptive. This is how plants are made to accept genes outside their restrictive “family.” Genes from bacteria and even from animals can be inserted. The problem is that because of their receptivity, GM plants cross-breed more readily than other plants and they infiltrate non-GM crops everywhere.

One of the major “selling points” of GM seeds is that they can be made to be pesticide resistant. Monsanto has created a whole line of “Roundup Ready” seeds. The pesticide called Roundup (also made by Monsanto) is well known because it is the only pesticide that indiscriminately kills everything in the soil. It is used to control weeds and to clear the soil for a new crop. Roundup Ready crops help growers to control weeds but they also encourage the growth of pesticide-resistant weeds, bacteria, and insects—and they wreak havoc with the environment . . . and did everyone forget that pesticides end up in foods?

The other major “selling point” for GM seeds is that they out-produce traditional crops.

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Experience proves this is not true. The economies of whole communities in many countries have been devastated when they have moved to GM production. The cost of seed and pesticides (it's a package deal) is way beyond the promised revenue from yield. In many cases, yield is below traditional varieties. It would appear that the risks are high and that the benefits go only to the producer of the seed—and the pesticides.

Many polls have been taken. Most people are not in favor of GM foods. Yet they are slowly being forced upon us without our knowledge because in the U.S., GM foods don't have to be labeled. In Europe, it's another story. Ten years ago, Europe mandated the labeling of foods containing GM ingredients. As a result, most food manufacturers in Europe chose non-GM ingredients. Europe practically eliminated GM foods from their food supply . . . until recently when the pressure from corporate giants was turned up. Information disclosed through Wikileaks (the international non-profit organization that publishes leaked documents supplied by anonymous whistle blowers), revealed just how thick the plot to compromise our food really is.

One document exposes a plan to force GM foods onto European countries by making those countries pay a steep price if they resist. In his own words, the former U.S. ambassador to France expresses his frustration that France might pass environmental laws to hinder the expansion of GM technology.

“Moving to retaliation will make clear that the current path has real costs to EU interests and could help strengthen European pro-biotech voice. Country team Paris recommends that we calibrate a target retaliation list that causes some pain across the EU since this is a collective responsibility, but that also focuses in part on the worst culprits. The list should be measured rather than vicious and must be sustainable over the long term, since we should not expect an early victory...” (You can read the complete cable online.) This cable supports what GM expert Jeffrey Smith has been saying for a long time—that slowly and stealthily, unless we do something about it, GM foods will become our only choice.

Read part 3 in the next issue. I'll explain how the FDA has been an implicit part of the plot and I'll share ideas for how we can stop the encroachment on our food freedoms. ●

Sharyn Wynters is a naturopath and author. Her latest book, SURVIVE! A Family Guide to Thriving in a Toxic World will alert you to the seriousness of the problems in Food Safety and in 18 other areas. It will guide you to solutions that will help to protect your health and the health of your family. Her book can be purchased from her website at www.wyntersway.com

