



Millions Against Monsanto: Time to Step It Up

In the last edition of *Organic Bytes* we celebrated our common victory over Monsanto: the Biotech Behemoth's announcement that it was "divesting" or selling off its controversial genetically engineered animal drug, recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (rBGH). With Monsanto's stock price and reputation wobbling, now is the time to advance, to move forward and aggressively block Monsanto's assault on consumers, the environment and democracy.

DID YOU KNOW:

- ▶ Monsanto contributes hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to elected officials & spends millions in lobbying?
- ▶ Almost 100 million pounds of Monsanto's best selling herbicide, RoundUp, are applied to gardens and lawns each year, accounting for \$1 billion in sales?

Take action at OCA's **Millions Against Monsanto** page: organicconsumers.org/monlink.cfm where you will find links to:

- ▶ Contact your legislators and tell them to say **no** to Monsanto's Dirty Money
- ▶ Sign OCA's petition to Home Depot, the US and Canada's largest home improvement chain and a major vendor of RoundUp. Tell Home Depot's CEO Frank Blake: *Do the Right Thing, Dump Monsanto!*



Eli Lilly Buys Monsanto's rBGH

In a surprise move on August 20, Eli Lilly's Elanco agriculture division announced it is buying Monsanto's beleaguered GE animal drug, recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (rBGH). Eli Lilly will be inheriting a product with major health, environmental, and public relations problems. Infamous for marketing drugs with serious and often deadly side-effects, like Prozac and Cialis, Eli Lilly is the world's 10th largest pharmaceutical corporation with over \$18 billion in annual sales. OCA will be joining our allies to pressure Eli Lilly to take this dangerous and inhumane drug off the market.

Stay tuned: organicconsumers.org/articles/article_14218.cfm

Climate Change is Destroying the American West

- ▶ In 1910 there were 150 glaciers at Glacier National Park; now there are 25.
- ▶ Glacier National Park will have no glaciers within ten years.
- ▶ Southern California is home to 23 million people, all of whom are dependent on the Colorado River for the majority of their water needs.
- ▶ Due to decreasing mountain snow melt in areas like Glacier Park, the Colorado River, the primary water supply for 7 states, will be unable to meet demands within four years.
- ▶ An April Gallup Poll found that only one in three Americans are worried about Climate Change.

Learn more: organicconsumers.org/articles/article_14167.cfm

Join OCA: Concert & Progressive Networking at RNC

On September 2, during the week of protests at the Republican National Convention (RNC) in St. Paul, Minnesota, the Organic Consumers Association and the Organic Consumers Fund's Grassroots Netroots Alliance are taking part in a concert and public education event on the State Capitol lawn. The event is called *Ripple Effect*, and it will bring together progressive music lovers and organizations from across the US to strategize and get charged up for the coming election season. Thousands of people will gather for this free event, which will serve as a peaceful place to meet during the

RNC protests and will include: speakers, including Native American spokeswoman Winona LaDuke and anti-war leader Medea Benjamin from Code Pink; music from Michael Franti, Anti-Flag and others; & locally grown organic food. We welcome our readers to join us on September 2. Organizers of the event have asked us to call on our readers for donations for the Ripple Effect. Even if you can't be in St. Paul for the RNC you can help these youth organizers make this event happen by sending a contribution. rippleeffecto8.com

How Organic Farming Can Save Our Oceans

The alarming increase of "Dead Zones" in the world's oceans over the past few years is now as much of a threat to ocean life as overfishing and habitat loss, say researchers in the recent issue of the journal *Science*. Dead Zones are typically created when massive amounts of synthetic fertilizer from conventional farms are carried via rivers to the ocean. The fertilizers cause algae blooms which suffocate fish. The number of Dead Zones has risen from 162 to 405 in the last twenty years. Scientists say this year's Dead Zone in the Gulf of Mexico, created by chemical farm fertilizer runoff, factory farm pollution, and municipal sewage contamination in the Mississippi Basin, is a record 8,000 square miles. Researchers now agree that chemical agriculture "Dead Zones" are one of the world's biggest environmental threats. The only real solution to the world's Dead Zones is to make the transition to chemical fertilizer & pesticide-free organic farming. organicconsumers.org/articles/article_14143.cfm

Tell Congress: Drilling Everywhere is Not a Solution

As you've probably heard in the news, the Bush Administration wants to hand over yet more land to the oil and gas companies for drilling. But what the administration won't tell you is that with this plan Americans won't see even minor relief at the pump for decades. Should we really sacrifice public lands for nothing but a false promise? Can we afford the air and water pollution, and the risk to communities, wildlife and wilderness that a rush to drill would cause? **Take action today:** Tell Congress to protect our wild places—because no one can guarantee clean oil and gas development or lower gas prices: www.action.wilderness.org/campaign/newdrilloca

Please Donate

We need your support today to continue fighting for the rights of organic farmers & consumers! organicconsumers.org/donations.htm