



This is a condensed print version of our weekly newsletter. For links to action alerts as well as in-depth information about each story, please visit the online version: organicconsumers.org/bytes/ob325.htm

Vermont Surrenders

Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin has less than two weeks to either stand with the 90% of his constituents who support a mandatory labeling bill for genetically engineered (GE) foods—or cave to Monsanto's threat to sue the state if legislators pass H.722. The bill that once appeared destined to pass on the merits of scientific evidence, overwhelming public support, and support of the majority of Vermont's progressive legislators, now appears doomed—unless Vermont voters succeed in changing the Governor's mind.

If the Governor's words this past week are any indication, he's already surrendered to Monsanto. But Vermonters, not known for backing down from a fight, are challenging legislators to take on the biotech industry. They're even offering to raise money for the state's defense. bit.ly/HPuo5T

Support the Legal Defense Fund:
bit.ly/HPuwlQ

Monsanto's Enforcers

Monsanto has threatened to sue states like Vermont if they pass laws that require labels on GE food and ban the routine industry practice of labeling or marketing GMO-tainted foods as "natural" or "all natural." In the US and Canada, Monsanto has sued more than 150 farmers and threatened thousands of others, for refusing to pay for "intellectual property theft" after their fields were contaminated by Monsanto's patented GE crops.

In Argentina, thugs assaulted a well-known scientist, Andres Carrasco, who had carried out experiments demonstrating the extreme toxicity of Monsanto's herbicide, Roundup.

In Argentina, industry-hired gunmen invaded the homes of activist mothers, threatening them for trying to stop their children from being poisoned by the massive aerial spraying of herbicides on Monsanto's GE soybeans.

Please take action in solidarity with Argentinian activist Sofia Gatica who was visited by an armed man who warned her not to "screw around with the soybeans" when she launched a campaign to ban Monsanto's Roundup-resistant soybeans, after her 3-day-old daughter died of kidney failure from pesticide poisoning. Ban Monsanto's RoundUp: bit.ly/sq11uh · No Agent Orange Corn! Take Action Before April 27: bit.ly/x7QsWS

Genetic Crimes Unit to Protest Monsanto/FDA Enforcer Michael Taylor at Food Safety Summit

There is nothing safe about toxic pesticides & unlabeled GE foods. On April 19, 2012 the Occupy Monsanto Genetic Crimes Unit will protest outside of the Food Safety Summit at the Washington, DC, Convention Center.

Food safety activists will meet at 11 am at the Mount Vernon Square / 7th Street / Convention Center Metro station (Yellow & Green Line at the corner of M Street & 7th Street, NW) and will call on FDA Commissioner Michael Taylor to resign.

Learn More: occupy-monsanto.com/?p=706

Save the Bees! Ban Bayer's Poison Pesticide.

Commercial beekeepers have filed an emergency legal petition with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to suspend use of a pesticide that is linked to massive honey bee deaths. The legal petition, which specifies Bayer's neonicotinoid pesticide clothianidin, is backed by over one million citizen petition signatures. Add your voice and learn how to protect your neighborhood bees.

Take Action: National: bit.ly/GIE4Nb
California: bit.ly/HPvn66



The Most Evil Chemical Company

In this video, Bill Aal (AGRAWATCH) and Alexis Baden-Mayer (OCA) speak to the various national and global aspects of the genetically modified food industry and the concerns for farmers and agriculture here and around the world.

Interwoven is the influence of Monsanto and the Gates Foundation, the "charity" of Bill Gates, the 2nd richest person in the world, in government agencies. bit.ly/HPvIpm

Control the Corporation!

Videos are online now from the day-long Control the Corporation conference, where OCA Political Director Alexis Baden-Mayer spoke on a panel titled, "Creating New Economic Models and Launching Initiatives." bit.ly/HPvLBn