Tell the Democrats: Let the Candidates Debate!

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The Organic Consumers Association would like to hear the candidates debate support for regenerative organic agriculture, restraints on new techniques of genetic engineering and curbs on pollution from pesticides, chemical fertilizers and factory farming.

Very few Americans really know what's in their food, where their food comes from or how it's produced. A debate between Biden, Kennedy and Williamson on the intricacies of federal farm policies would be enlightening.

Without debates, it's easy for candidates to remain silent on important issues.

Read more: https://orgcns.org/43J1nHY

Allying With the Water Cycle to Prevent Wildfires

These Mega-fires indicate widespread landscape dehydration caused by increased temperatures induced by the climate crisis and biodiversity loss.

Because natural water retention is facilitated by fauna and fungi, which help cycle water, carbon, nutrients, and energy, Fauna, such as dung beetles, earthworms, and prairie dogs, are critically essential as they carve underground pathways that help landscapes retain moisture.

Overground animals such as wild grazers and holistically managed cattle are vital for adding nutrients that, in turn, boost plant growth which adds organic matter to soils and benefits the entire soil food web.

According to the USDA, every 1% of soil organic matter represents an additional 20.000 gallons of water held in the ground per acre. Therefore, in a world that is increasingly drier and prone to greater wildfire risk, rehydrating landscapes has become a matter of emergency.

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3JhE67N

WHO Launches Digital Health Initiative with Europe

Analysis by Dr. Mercola:

"June 5, 2023, the World Health Organization and the European Commission announced the launch of a "landmark digital health initiative to strengthen global health security."

As explained in the press release, as of this month, the WHO will establish a global COVID-19 vaccination certification system based on the European Union's (EU) already existing Digital COVID Certificate (EU DCC) to "help facilitate global mobility and protect citizens across the world from ongoing and future health threats."

Eventually, this vaccine passport system will be expanded into a Global Digital Health Certification Network (GDHCN) run by the WHO that will include "a wide range of digital products to deliver better health for all." The vaccine passport will also, in time, cover all recommended vaccinations, not just COVID-19."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3qNSFtC

Organic Farms Are More Cost Effective

"The study by Munich Technical University demonstrated that conventional agriculture costs up to €800 per hectare more than organic farming.

For the study, the researchers accounted for the usual farming expenses, including the costs related to the environmental impact of the two different farming approaches, such as those derived from the effects of greenhouse gas emissions.

They determined that transitioning to organic farming could significantly reduce emissions and costs. For example, if 30 percent of farmland is successfully converted to organic practices by 2030, as stipulated by the current policy in Germany, savings will exceed €4 billion, the researchers said."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/43lpTcf

Fossil Free Fashion Scorecard

Stand Earth writes:

"The fashion industry is a massive global emitter, responsible for 2–8% of annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Yet, the sector continues to maintain close ties to the fossil fuel industry – despite growing urgency to phase out fossil fuels.

The fashion sector must cut carbon emissions and adopt a just energy transition. However, harmful carbon intensive practices persist which need to be addressed by major fashion brands.

Stand.earth's 2021 Scorecard analysed information from 47 major fashion and apparel brands against five key criteria to measure their levels of leadership on supply chain decarbonisation, and found – with a few notable exceptions – an alarming lack of progress and leadership across the sector. Climate and energy ambition in the supply chain were falling short of the action required by the industry to rapidly and justly transition off of fossil fuels."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3NwV4la

Find Non-GMO Project Verified Products

The Institute for Responsible Technology writes:

"There is a wide range from self-verification to third party verification. So, when you see a claim of "non-GMO" on a package, it may mean different things on different products. There is no standard, there is no universal definition that everyone complies with. Some companies will self-certify and not even mention or allow us to determine what their criteria are.

These are just a few reasons why we are in favor of the Non-GMO Project. They have strict standards. Cheerios, for example, has non-GMO listed on their package, but they refused to tell us what their definition is. Trader Joe's also claims that brands bearing their name are non-GMO and that they do testing, but that's as far as they have gone. They haven't given us the details needed to evaluate their system. So, while we applaud companies that make non-GMO claims, we strongly urge them to become Non-GMO Project Verified, which gives us the necessary confidence."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/42HzT47