Defending Our Seed and Food Sovereignty, Resisting GMO Imperialism

By Navdanya International:
“Seeds are the first link in the food chain. They embody our heritage and enfold the future evolution of life. It is our inherent duty and responsibility to protect our seeds and pass them on to future generations. The cultivation of seeds and their free exchange among farmers have been the basis for maintaining biodiversity and our food security. Today, our seed sovereignty is threatened by intellectual property rights and new GMO technologies that have transformed seeds from a commons shared by farmers, to a commodity under the control and monopoly of agribusiness corporations. To have control over seeds is to have control over our lives, our food and our freedom.

Over the last few decades, GMO crops have been imposed in countries all over the world, advertised as a solution to food insecurity and the malnutrition crisis. GMO imperialism has destroyed the lives and livelihoods of small farmers and biodiversity in centers of origin.”

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3i5rJeh

Monsanto’s ‘Cancer Index’, an Alleged Conspiracy, and New PCB-Related Complaints

‘Dana Drugmand reports for The New Lede:
“The former Monsanto company – now owned by Bayer AG – illegally cut a secret deal with General Electric Co. decades ago to try to shield itself from liability related to PCB contamination in western Massachusetts, engaging in a conspiracy that continues to wreak harm on the region, according to new complaints from local officials.

In a January 2 letter sent to several local, state, and federal officials, including President Joe Biden and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Michael Regan, officials from the town of Lee, Mass., said they believe a 1970s-era deal between Monsanto and GE in which GE agreed to release Monsanto from liability for PCB contamination violated the Massachusetts Civil Conspiracy Law. The town plans to file charges against Monsanto this month, the letter states. Lee officials also accuse the EPA of failing to “adequately investigate” the arrangement between the two companies.”

Read more: https://orgcns.org/42T9KkD

Is Tart Cherry Worthy of the Hype?

Analysis by Dr. Joseph Mercola:
“While sweet and tart cherries share many of the same benefits, tart cherries have grown in popularity as a nutraceutical. They can be found in dried, frozen, juice, concentrated extracts and capsule form *Montmorency tart cherries have strong anti-inflammatory effects, making it helpful in the treatment of arthritis, cardiovascular disease and gout. It also reduces exercise-induced muscle damage and speeds recovery”

Read more: https://orgcns.org/42LH5y1

Move To Sustainable Food Systems Could Bring $10tn Benefits a Year, New Study Finds

Jonathan Watts writes for The Guardian:
“A shift towards a more sustainable global food system could create up to $10tn (£7.9tn) of benefits a year, improve human health and ease the climate crisis, according to the most comprehensive economic study of its type. It found that existing food systems destroyed more value than they created due to hidden environmental and medical costs, in effect, borrowing from the future to take profits today.

Food systems drive a third of global greenhouse gas emissions, putting the world on course for 2.7C of warming by the end of the century. This creates a vicious cycle, as higher temperatures bring more extreme weather and greater damage to harvests. Food insecurity also puts a burden on medical systems. The study predicted a business-as-usual approach would leave 640 million people underweight by 2050, while obesity would increase by 70%.

Redirecting the food system would be politically challenging but bring huge economic and welfare benefits, said the international team of authors behind the study, which aims to be the food equivalent of the Stern review, the 2006 examination of the costs of climate change.”

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3wp9vBH

The Klamath River in California and Oregon: A Healthy New Beginning

Christian Thorberg writes for Smithsonian Magazine:
“The gate’s opening, formerly just a crack, was extended to three feet wide. Dark brown waters rumbled through the gap, washing years of sediment buildup downriver. Over the next week, 2,200 cubic feet of water per second were expected to flow, lowering the reservoir between two and four feet per day. Eventually, the channel’s entire width—stretching 16 feet across—will allow the uninhibited passage of water and sediment.”

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

Can Mushrooms Really Break Down Plastic?

Linnea Harris writes for EcoWatch: “The 2 to 4 million species of fungi in the world offer us endless possibilities — from creating alternative building materials and textiles, to cleaning up environmental toxins, to providing new sources of plant-based proteins. Now, scientists are turning to mushrooms and mycoremediation to solve our plastic pollution crisis. Mycoremediation is a form of bioremediation: the introduction of microorganisms or other life forms to break down environmental pollutants in contaminated areas. Bioremediation is employed to clean up oil spills, industrial sites, brownfields and even Superfund sites, often introducing bacteria to degrade the pollutants and cycle nutrients back into the environment. Mycoremediation is different in that it uses fungi instead of bacteria.”

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3T71MRL