



## ***Is Blocking the Sun Being Normalized?***

### **Once a Conspiracy, Blocking the Sun Is Being Quietly Normalized**

Alexis Baden-Mayer, Esq., Political Director, Organic Consumers Association writes:

In 2021, Snopes said social media posts about “Bill Gates funding efforts to block the sun” were “mostly false.”

Then, in 2023, Politico reported that the White House was “cautiously” opening “the door to study blocking sun’s rays to slow global warming.” Now, in 2024, Climate Wire is reporting that the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) recently organized a private two-day meeting on solar geoengineering “to prepare for an expected surge of Silicon Valley funding related to last-ditch measures for slowing global warming.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/4bHZT5I>

TAKE ACTION! Tell your state legislators to say no to solar geoengineering! <https://orgcns.org/44M0j6q>

### **USDA Pesticide Data Program Continues to Mislead the Public on Pesticide Residue Exposure**

Beyond Pesticides writes:

“The latest U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) pesticide residue report, the 32nd Pesticide Data Program (PDP) Annual Summary report, released in January, finds that over 72 percent of tested commodities contain pesticide residues (27.6 percent have no detectable residues), mostly below the level the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set for tolerances (allowable residues) whose safety standards have been called into question by advocates.

USDA spins its report findings as a positive safety finding because, as the Department says, “[m]ore than 99 percent of the products sampled through PDP had residues below the established EPA tolerances.” USDA continues, “Ultimately, if EPA determines a pesticide use is not safe for human consumption, EPA will mitigate exposure to the pesticide through actions such as amending the pesticide label instructions, changing or revoking a pesticide residue tolerance, or not registering a new use.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3SLn8mb>

### **Pregnant Women in Indiana Show Fourfold Increase in Toxic Weedkiller in Urine**

Johnathan Hettinger and Carey Gillam write in The Guardian:

“Pregnant women in a key US farm state are showing increasing amounts of a toxic weedkiller in their urine, a rise that comes alongside climbing use of the chemicals in agriculture, according to a study published on Friday.

The study, led by the Indiana University school of medicine, showed that 70% of pregnant women tested in Indiana between 2020 and 2022 had a herbicide called dicamba in their urine, up from 28% from a similar analysis for the period 2010-12. The earlier study included women in Indiana, Illinois and Ohio.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3SKXOwF>

### **America is a Factory Farming Nation**

Nina Lakhani, writes for the Guardian:

“Record numbers of US farms are going out of business with small farms and Black farmers the hardest hit – again, according to the 2022 agriculture census, a comprehensive snapshot of the state of America’s farms and farmers published every five years by the Department of Agriculture (USDA). Yet industrial factory farms rearing thousands of livestock in confinement have further expanded into rural America, acquiring smaller farms, raking in taxpayer subsidies and generating environmental harms...

Small and medium dairy farms have fared worst. Almost 7 million dairy cattle – 75% of the total – are now reared in confinement on factory farms, each with 2,000 or more cows. ‘As industrial confinements drive family-scale farmers off their land ... the benefits flow to private coffers while our communities and environment are left holding the bag,’ said Amanda Starbuck, FWW research director.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3ux3h2I>

### **We Can’t Achieve Food Justice if We Don’t Prioritize Soil Health**

Danielle Nierenberg writes for Food Tank:

“It is obvious to most of us that food is a human right. But our discussions of food justice need to be grounded—literally—in what experts are calling a right to healthy soils.

Without well-nourished soil, “the global issues of climate change and food security cannot be addressed,” says soil scientist Dr. Rattan Lal. He’s the recipient of the World Food Prize and a Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science at The Ohio State University.

I had the opportunity to chat with Dr. Lal recently at a U.N. human rights conference on food justice in Doha, Qatar. World leaders had some crucial discussions at that summit—and, as always, I personally learned so much from Dr. Lal.

‘The right to food and right to soil are inextricably linked,’ Dr. Lal says.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/42P4rTo>

### **The Anti-Inflammatory Properties of Ginger**

Dr. Joseph Mercola writes:

“Ginger has powerful anti-inflammatory properties that data show may be related to how it influences neutrophils. Research also shows ginger may protect against this common condition.

\* The bioactive compounds in ginger help counteract neutrophil hyperactivity in certain autoimmune diseases by increasing cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP), which in turn inhibits neutrophil extracellular trap (NET) formation

\* Researchers were encouraged to find a natural supplement that could help fight overactive neutrophils and may complement treatment programs to relieve symptoms of diseases like rheumatoid arthritis, lupus and antiphospholipid syndrome”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/4bLOq5S>

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