

Organic Bytes Weekly Newsletter of the Organic Consumers Association

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FRAUD ALERT: Eggland's Best Is Misleading Consumers!

Eggs with "Superior Nutrition" from "Humanely" Caged Hens Packaged in "Environmentally-Friendly" Polystyrene?

By Alexis Baden-Mayer, Political Director at OCA:

The Organic Consumers Association is suing Eggland's Best for allegedly misleading consumers by marketing its "Classic Eggs" as: a) Coming from caged hens that are "always handled ... humanely" and have space "adequate for normal function and behavior." b) Delivered "in the most environment-friendly way" in polystyrene cartons that are "recyclable" and accepted by "more and more communities . . . in their recycling programs." c) Providing "Superior Nutrition" including that the eggs contain fewer calories, and less cholesterol and total fat, than "ordinary eggs."

Contrary to Eggland's Best's claims that its eggs are superior to "ordinary eggs" in environmental sustainability, animal welfare, and nutrition, Organic Consumers Association alleges that Eggland's Best eggs are: *a*) Laid by hens who are raised in cages that are not adequate for normal function or behavior; *b*) Packaged in polystyrene that is neither "environmentally friendly" nor generally recyclable; and *c*) Not nutritionally superior to other eggs.

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3Utxlk4

Millions of Monarch Butterflies Have Gone Missing: You Can Plant Milkweed To Help

By Mia Taylor, BBC:

"Monarch populations are teetering on extinction, their numbers down to 5% of what they were a few decades ago. Here's what to know and the simplest way to help.

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

The Xerces Society:

"Native milkweeds (Asclepias spp.) are essential for monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus) caterpillars and support a diversity of pollinators with their abundant nectar. By including milkweeds in gardens, landscaping, wildlife habitat restoration projects, and native revegetation efforts, you can provide breeding habitat for monarchs as well as a valuable nectar source for butterflies, bees, and other beneficial insects. We have created this comprehensive national directory of native milkweed seed vendors to help you find sources of seed.

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3c2Z0HZ

The Blunder That Changed Chickens Forever

Film by Max Tobin, produced by Tom Heyden of BBC:

This is the story of how one mistake gave birth to the 50-billion-dollar US chicken industry. For most of history, chickens were kept for eggs, not meat. That all changed 100 years ago after this one error – capitalised upon by one very entrepreneurial American woman.

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3xQ0mTx

PFAS: Researchers Recommend a Thorough Review of Food Packaging

Cristen Hemingway Jaynes writes for EcoWatch:

"New research by environmental scientists with Switzerland's Food Packaging Forum Foundation has uncovered 68 per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) 'forever chemicals' in food packaging — including plastic, paper and coated metal... Scientists have discovered that PFAS have adverse health impacts, leading to many being banned, reported Phys.org. Recent research has demonstrated that the toxic substances can migrate into food."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/4b6klWK

Anti-Supplement Bill: FDA Wants to Restrict Access to Supplements

By Alliance for Natural Health USA (ANH-USA):

"After we defeated his anti-supplement bill in 2022, Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) is trying to do the same thing again. Let's make sure he doesn't succeed.

Action Alert! Write to Congress and tell them to oppose efforts to establish a "mandatory filing" for supplements. Take Action Below. Sen. Durbin is planning to reintroduce his legislation to require mandatory product listing for dietary supplements.

This is an unnecessary regulation that will restrict consumer choices, putting us on a road to high-dose supplement restrictions with no basis in safety or public health.

It is another instance in which the FDA shows its loyalty to drug companies by slapping needless red tape on its competitors in the natural product industry.

It's time, once again, to defend our supplement access in the face of an FDA / Big Pharma / Sen. Durbin onslaught. We've done it before, and we can do it again—but not without a powerful grassroots response telling Congress NOT to restrict our supplements."

TAKE ACTION with ANH-USA: https://orgcns.org/3U6lhJz

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3Jtk4gz

6 Experts Share Why They Love Spring Foraging

Stephanie Gravalese writes for Forbes:

"We spoke with six chefs and foragers passionate about the season, all eager to share their tips and insights. From ethical and sustainable harvesting to proper storage and preparation of your finds, their perspectives offer a comprehensive guide to safely foraging and incorporating these seasonal ingredients into your spring dishes."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/44bNN0X