Organic Bytes Weekly Newsletter of the Organic Consumers Association

#845: April 4, 2024

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Bayer/Monsanto Lobby for Bills to Shield Them From Accountability

Sick Because of Roundup? These Bills Could Make Suing Impossible.

Nick Tabor writes in The New Republic:

"High-profile lawsuits have accused pesticides of causing cancer and Parkinson's. But three states are now considering bills that would prevent these lawsuits... Since January, bills to shield pesticide manufacturers from lawsuits have been filed in three states where Bayer has a major corporate presence: Missouri (where Monsanto is headquartered), Idaho (where it has a phosphate mine), and Iowa (where it has a manufacturing plant). Daniel Hinkle, an attorney with the American Association for Justice, who works with trial lawyer associations throughout the country, predicted that if these bills succeed, Bayer will push similar legislation in a number of other states next year."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/3xu1f3L

TAKE ACTION: Make Your State the First to Ban Monsanto's

Roundup Weedkiller! https://orgcns.org/388UEKY

Mexico Glyphosate Ban Postponed: Delay Will Not Stop Us

Ercilia Sahores, International Director, Organic Consumers Association writes:

In 2020 Mexico announced the ban on the use of glyphosate, setting April 1, 2024 as the deadline to completely ban its use. This was a big victory for civil society, organizations, farmers, activists and former official governments who after years of pointing out the dangers of pesticides were finally heard.

Earlier this week, however, during one of his early morning conferences, Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced that the planned April 1 glyphosate ban was to be postponed without providing any new date for the prohibition.

Organic Consumers Association in Mexico along with its sister organization, Vía Orgánica, have supported the fight against glyphosate and the defense of non-GMO corn with funding, campaigning and organizing. This news came as a big surprise for many groups and coalitions like ours, who have been working in the defense of life, health, biodiversity and food sovereignty for decades.

But the delay in the ban of glyphosate will not stop us.

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

Rewilding 101: Everything You Need to Know

Cristen Hemingway Jaynes writes in Eco Watch:

Rewilding is the reversing of negative impacts on natural environments through the restoration and conservation of ecosystems, wilderness areas and their natural processes, and it is essential for the survival of most life on our planet...Doing so can not only restore biodiversity, but it can protect endangered species, prevent flooding and help mitigate climate change."

Read more: https://orgcns.org/4cBsn1b

Is Giving Farmers Millions to Kill Millions of Chickens the Way to Curb Bird Flu?

Andrew Jacobs writes for the New York Times:

"Big poultry farms have received millions of dollars for their losses. Animal welfare groups contend that aid reinforces inhumane cullings of birds exposed to the virus.

The highly lethal form of avian influenza circulating the globe since 2021 has killed tens of millions of birds, forced poultry farmers in the United States to slaughter entire flocks and prompted a brief but alarming spike in the price of eggs.

Most recently, it has infected dairy cows in several states and at least one person in Texas who had close contact with the animals, officials said this week."

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

The Tug of War Between Traditional Farming & Corporate-Produced Food

Angela Braden reports in Moms Across America:

"A promising leap toward more food sovereignty in the US has been the deregulation of local food production and sales at the state level. Several states have passed bills to legalize or expand raw milk distribution, "cottage food" sales, and on-farm slaughter — regulations that had been prohibitive to traditional small farms in the past.

"Cottage food" laws permit the sale of small-production-foods without the burdens of fully licensed retail foods. State cottage food laws limit sales by the type of food products sold, the locations of sale, and the amount of revenue that a cottage food production can make to receive the protections of the law. A cottage food operation does not have to be licensed, regulated, or inspected, by state law. Read about how loosening of the regulatory noose for small to medium farmers would also encourage more regenerative and organic practices: https://orgcns.org/3THnSJz

Sleep Promotes Brain Health

Analysis by Dr. Joseph Mercola:

- "* Sleep may help jump-start the glymphatic system, which flushes waste from your brain
- * During sleep, neurons generate electrical signals that generate rhythmic brain waves, propelling cerebrospinal fluid through the brain
- * These electrical waves may boost the function of the glymphatic system, helping cerebrospinal fluid penetrate deeper into the brain and pick up waste, enhancing the cleaning process
- * By enhancing your brain's ability to clear out debris, sleep may reduce your risk of brain diseases, since the accumulation of metabolic waste is a leading cause of neurological disorders
- * Proper sleep is also important for abstract learning, memory consolidation and mental health"

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