

February, 2012 | [Click here to view in your browser and SHARE this newsletter](#)  
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Jeffrey Smith

### Roundup in city-dwellers' urine

Studies have already found Monsanto's toxic herbicide Roundup in groundwater, in streams, and even in the rain and air of US agricultural areas. It's been found in our blood and even crosses the placental barrier to enter our unborn fetuses. So are we surprised that a German university study has now found significant concentrations of Roundup's main ingredient glyphosate in the urine of city dwellers?

Perhaps we should be surprised at the amount: all the samples had concentrations of glyphosate at 5 to 20 times the limit for drinking water.

Roundup is used on railway lines, urban pavements, and roadsides. It's used to dry down grain crops before harvest. But the single greatest use of Roundup is on genetically engineered "Roundup Ready" crops - designed not to die when sprayed with the poison.

Wouldn't it be good if we too were Roundup Ready, so we wouldn't get sick or die due to the virtually omnipresent toxin? After all, studies now link it to birth defects, endocrine disruption, cancer, and abnormal sperm.

As Roundup is a best-selling product worldwide and there are massive profits hanging on its continued use, the new testing initiative has fallen prey to the usual attempts at disinformation, distortion, and intimidation. Note the excerpt from the story: "The address of the university labs, which did the research, the data and the evaluation of the research method is known to the editors. Because of significant pressure by agrochemical representatives and the fear that the work of the lab could be influenced, the complete analytical data will only be published in the course of this year." [Read the Article [ <http://www.gmwatch.eu/component/content/article/13631> ]

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### Adverse effects in pigs fed GM corn "disappear"

They're at it again - hoping that no one actually reads their GMO studies, just the fanciful headlines and press releases. If someone does read about a short-term (31-day) study with pigs fed Monsanto's Bt corn, they would have seen for themselves that had intestinal changes, heavier kidneys, and gained less weight per pound of feed consumed - oops! The authors admit right in the summary abstract that these differences deserve a follow up for further clarification. [Read the Article [ <http://www.esaim-m2an.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=8479158> ] ]

But if you were like most people who let headlines tell you what studies reported, you would get a totally different version. The story title in Science Daily boldly proclaimed: "Genetically modified food safe, animal study suggests." [Read the Article [ <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/01/120124140103.htm> ] ]

The author of the Science Daily piece wrote, "no adverse health effects" were found in three feeding studies on pigs fed GM corn. Perhaps the author should have read the studies, instead of taking dictation from Monsanto. Come to think of it, so should the government.

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### USDA greenlights useless GM corn

Former US Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman characterized the hype around GMOs. They were "going to solve the problems of the human race and feed the hungry and clothe the naked." That was during the Clinton Administration! We're still waiting.

Finally, Monsanto has rolled out something that doesn't just drink their poisonous herbicide or produce poisonous pesticides. The biotech industry finally has their long sought after poster child - a corn genetically engineered to survive better in drought conditions. Or does it?

In fact, Monsanto's hi-tech, uber-expensive corn only works in "moderate" drought conditions and doesn't even outperform the natural non-GMO drought-tolerant varieties. So after more than a decade in development, this much touted corn is a total failure. It gives nothing positive to farmers. And it exposes consumers to a long list of possible health dangers - which are not evaluated by Monsanto or the government. So what did our US Department of Agriculture do? They approved it! [Read the Article [ <http://motherjones.com/tom-philpott/2012/01/monsanto-gmo-drought-tolerant-corn> ]]

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GM crops work against sustainable farming - study

GMOs are a lot of things, but they're not "sustainable agriculture." According to an article [ <http://www.jstor.org/pss/10.1525/bio.2012.62.1.12> ] published in the journal BioScience, weeds are having a field day (so to speak). Excessive reliance on Roundup caused the spread of many harmful "herbicide tolerant" weeds that now infest millions of acres of farmland the US, resulting in greater herbicide use.

But the article goes beyond other similar ones by concluding that the development of GM herbicide-tolerant crops, especially 2,4-D and dicamba-tolerant crops, contributes to the decline of sustainable weed management and of sustainable agriculture generally, as former US EPA biotech adviser Dr. Doug Gurian-Sherman explains in his blog. [Read the Article [ <http://blog.ucsusa.org/are-genetically-engineered-herbicide-resistant-crops-leading-to-the-demise-of-sustainable-weed-control> ]]

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Action Alerts

Tell USDA To Reject Agent Orange Corn

Dow Chemical is currently requesting an unprecedented USDA approval: a genetically engineered (GE) version of corn that is resistant to 2,4-D, a major component of the highly toxic Agent Orange. USDA approval of Dow's GE corn will trigger a big increase in 2,4-D use - and our exposure to this toxic herbicide. Exposure to 2,4-D has been linked to major health problems that include cancer (especially non-Hodgkin's lymphoma), lowered sperm counts, liver disease and Parkinson's disease. [Sign the petition [ [http://action.responsibletechnology.org/p/dia/action/public/?action\\_KEY=9142](http://action.responsibletechnology.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=9142) ]]

Tell President Obama to DUMP Former Monsanto VP Michael Taylor!

When Barack Obama ran for President he promised to end the "revolving door" between agribusiness lobbyists and government and to "regulate" factory farms. It's time for President Obama to stand up for real food safety and put an end to the assault against family farmers producing healthy food. It's time to protect family farmers and stop letting Big Ag lobbyists write the rules. [Sign the Petition! [ [http://action.responsibletechnology.org/p/dia/action/public/?action\\_KEY=9652](http://action.responsibletechnology.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=9652) ]]

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Join the Tipping Point Network!

Help us reach the Tipping Point of consumer rejection and get GMOs out of our food supply! Join Today! [ [http://action.responsibletechnology.org/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup\\_page\\_KEY=2925](http://action.responsibletechnology.org/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=2925) ]

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When I switched to a non-GMO diet, my symptoms...

Please tell us your story. Many folks are reporting improved health and wellbeing when they remove GMOs from their diet. We hear that problems ranging from overweight, skin rashes, irritable bowel, allergies, migraines, and more have cleared up soon after the change. Email your story to [healthy@responsibletechnology.org](mailto:healthy@responsibletechnology.org) [ <mailto:healthy@responsibletechnology.org> ]

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In The News

California consumers don't have the right to know they're eating GM food [ <http://www.onearth.org/blog/fish-feud-the-right->

to-know-about-gmo-fish ]  
OneEarth

What Bill Gates doesn't know about GMOs [ <http://www.takepart.com/article/2012/02/02/the-flip-side-what-bill-gates-doesnt-know-about-gmos> ]  
TakePart

Pushing back against Gates propaganda for GMOs [ <http://truefoodnow.org/2012/01/25/genetically-engineered-crops-will-not-feed-the-world/> ]  
True Food Now

Graphic shows revolving door between Monsanto and US government  
[ <http://www.facebook.com/nongmoproject/posts/163030373808487> ]  
Non-GMO Project

Monsanto attempts to lockout socially responsible shareholder [ <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/monsanto-attempts-to-lockout-socially-responsible-shareholder-at-annual-meeting-2012-01-20> ]  
Market Watch

Shareholder reveals what Monsanto thinks about GMO labeling [ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oPFGewWQzhE> ]  
Youtube Video

NYC: Protestors come out against Monsanto [ <http://www.foodrepublic.com/2012/01/31/nyc-protestors-come-out-against-monsanto> ]  
Food Republic

Protesters occupy Monsanto in Canada [ <http://ckom.com/story/protesters-occupy-monsanto-outside-saskatoon/41409> ]  
Ckom

Argentina says Monsanto contractor abuses workers [ <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9SADUU80.htm> ]  
BusinessWeek

Victory for European GM opponents as BASF relocates its GM unit to the US [ <http://www.panna.org/blog/german-biotech-giant-flees-europe> ]  
Panna

Monsanto won't sell its GM maize in France [ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/24/us-gmo-france-monsanto-idUSTRE80N1NI20120124> ]  
Reuters

India fast-tracks GMOs in spite of Bt cotton failure, health effects  
[ [http://www.telegraphindia.com/1120125/jsp/opinion/story\\_15050980.jsp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1120125/jsp/opinion/story_15050980.jsp) ]  
Telegraph India

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[ <http://www.wholesoyco.com> ]

[ <http://www.crunchmaster.com/home.aspx> ]

[ <http://edenfoods.com> ]

[ <http://beanitos.com> ]

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[ [https://org2.democracyinaction.org/o/6236/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate\\_page\\_KEY=7834](https://org2.democracyinaction.org/o/6236/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate_page_KEY=7834) ]

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[ <http://responsibletechnology.org/volunteer-opportunities> ]

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HEALTHY EATING Starts with No GMOs! THE CAMPAIGN FOR HEALTHIER EATING IN AMERICA  
[ <http://www.responsibletechnology.org/take-action/> ] The Institute for Responsible Technology is working to end the genetic engineering of our food supply and the outdoor release of GM crops.

\*"Help us Create the Tipping Point in the American Marketplace!"\*

[ [https://org2.democracyinaction.org/o/6236/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate\\_page\\_KEY=7834](https://org2.democracyinaction.org/o/6236/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate_page_KEY=7834) ] Spilling the Beans Facebook Icon [ <http://www.facebook.com/responsibletechnology> ] JOIN US ON FACEBOOK  
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