

Ten Questions to Ask People about the Nutritional, Public Health, and Environmental Damage Resulting From Transgenic Agriculture

- 1.** Ask stores and restaurants if anything transgenic is in the food they are selling you. Ask if they understand the word “transgenic.” Ask if they know about the transgenic tomatoes with genes from an arctic fish so they would not freeze—and the transgenic potatoes that were taken off the market when major corporate buyers, like MacDonalds, refused to buy them.
- 2.** Ask if the meat, eggs, and dairy products you are buying and eating comes from animals fed transgenic grain or forage. Mostly, people will not know the answer to this question, but asking will encourage investigation. People need help to understand the dangers. Give them this help.
- 3.** Ask people if they understand the unstudied long-term risks and dangers resulting from transgenic agricultural methods. Ask people if they understand why these methods are used and why they were not carefully studied before being introduced. Tell the story, if there is time. Ask if people know anyone who intentionally lives on transgenic food because they believe in it.
- 4.** Ask people if they have heard about transgenic Bt (pesticide) corn genes found in fetuses and bodies of pregnant woman despite the corporate assurances that no such thing could ever occur. Provide the documentation of the Canadian study (see article over).
- 5.** Ask people if they know about the stillborn, infertile, and genetically compromised animals resulting from the feeding of a transgenic diet. Ask people if they know why these reports have not been widely publicized. Tell the stories you know about.
- 6.** Ask people if they know about the animals who have died from eating transgenic plants. Ask if they know animals will not eat transgenic food when given a choice. Ask if they know about the farmers in India who committed suicide when their expensive transgenic seeds failed to deliver on the promised yields and left them with insurmountable debt.
- 7.** Ask people if they know about the Roundup-resistant super-weeds and the destruction of soil fertility caused because Glyphosate (Roundup) binds with soil minerals denying plants and plant-consuming animals and people the immune health needed to resist disease. Explain how information on this subject has not been provided to the public by the corporate media.
- 8.** Ask people if they know about the multi-generational transgenic feeding studies in other nations. Ask if they understand how patent rights and research contracts are used to prevent such studies in the United States. Ask people if they understand the power of corporate money in politics, the role of biotech lobbying in rigging the food system, and influence of corporations both inside government and in agricultural research institutions, including those at agricultural schools of land-grant universities. Tell about about the recent whistle-blowing by retirees.
- 9.** Ask people if they know that companies selling transgenic products are allowed to do their own food safety studies without independent, objective review, replication, and confirmation of the findings before products are released onto the market. Tell about the views of the overruled scientists at the FDA before transgenic crops were publicly released in 1992 by Bush-Quayle.
- 10.** Ask people if they know about the placement of industry representatives and those friendly to the biotech industry in key government regulatory and administrative jobs with power over food safety decisions. Ask if they understand the abuses of the public interest resulting from the political contributions given to candidates and officials—and associated lobbying. Explain how this weakens democratic integrity and the image of the United States around the world.

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(with numbering associated to the questions on the previous page)

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This message was prepared by the plaintiffs in the lawsuit: OSGATA v. Monsanto. For more information, see:
<http://www.EndTransgenicTrespass.org>, <http://www.pubpat.org>, the Web sites of the plaintiff organizations, or do a Web search on the lawsuit name and on other related keywords.