

From: Arthur Tesla <arthurtesla@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 2:10 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Washington has been corrupted...

Washington has been corrupted by powerful special interest groups. The revolving door and lobbyists are influencing decisions by the USDA, EPA and FDA. These agencies are supposed to be serving the people...instead they are working for Monsanto, agribusiness and drug companies.

New York Times poll, 53% of Americans won't buy genetically modified food

<http://wcbstv.com/national/CBS.News.New.2.721469.html>

Please stop trying to *force* genetically engineered foods on us.

Consumers don't want it! The government keeps approving new gmo's. Fortunately, Monsanto, the biotech industry and the government have lost two recent court cases that questioned the rulings:

COURT FINDS USDA VIOLATED FEDERAL LAW BY ALLOWING GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SUGAR BEETS ON THE MARKET Government Failed To Evaluate Environmental and Economic Risks of Monsanto Product

a Federal Court ruled yesterday that the Bush USDA's approval of genetically engineered (GE) RoundUp Ready sugar beets was unlawful. The Court ordered the USDA to conduct a rigorous assessment of the environmental and economic impacts of the crop on farmers and the environment.

The Court found **no support in the record** for APHIS' conclusion that conventional sugar beets would remain available for farmers and consumers and held that the agency's decision that there would be no impacts from the GE beets **unreasonable**.

Roundup Ready crops allow farmers to douse their fields with Monsanto's Roundup herbicide without killing the crop. Constant application of the herbicide has resulted in weeds becoming resistant to it. There are now millions of acres across the U.S. of such **superweeds**, including marestail, ragweed, and waterhemp, and farmers are using greater applications of Roundup or other, even more toxic chemicals. According to an independent analysis of USDA data by former Board of Agriculture Chair of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Charles Benbrook, **GE crops increased herbicide use in the U.S. by 122 million pounds a 15-fold increase between 1994 (when GE herbicide-tolerant crops were introduced) to 2004.**

Monsanto lost a similar ruling on alfalfa .

