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Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 5:01 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

The bottom line is it's our food! The land that all of the food in our country is grown is the food of the American people. We have a vested interest in its quality and safety.

I am writing because I am not going to accept business as usual at the Dept of Ag. I will not sit idly by and be poisoned any longer. I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets. I am fed UP with foreign companies buying up American soil and creating a toxic situation that is polluting American soil. It is a National Security issue.

This was sent to me from a young Canadian who wanted me to know what he had learned about GM foods:

First you need to understand that there is no single line that under 'Codex's' Guidelines that explicitly state that it is to be used as a genocidal weapon. Rather it is an amalgamation of several Standards that will have a cumulative effect. These Standards are the product of the FAO and Codex Alimentarius Commission overseen by the WHO and WTO.

Codex through these various means will seek to maintain and possibly accelerate malnourishment through the use of GM Foods and the subsequent removal Dietary Supplements. A study conducted by the WHO in Nigeria found that, "When a child consumes a wide variety of healthful foods in adequate amounts, the potential for health and proper growth is excellent." (Latham, 1995). The same study concluded that there are approximately 150 million undernourished children and that: [Poor health status suppresses growth, reduces voluntary food intake and increases nutrient needs while poor nutritional status lowers immune competence and therefore increases susceptibility to infection (Latham, 1995)]

The FAO states that "At present, there are no foods derived from genetically modified plants modified to enhance nutrition in the commercial market. However, there are several plants with altered nutrient composition being developed using recombinant DNA technology. These have been designed to modify nutrient composition and levels or change the functionality of a product. - (NRI, 5.1) This clearly outlines that GMO Food will be of no benefit to Human or Animal health but will simply serve to create cheap foods that are of greater availability and are of "substantial equivalence," nutritinally.

Because GMO Foods also contain novel proteins they run a greater risk creating allergic reactions and severe health risks. A review of the studies performed by FLAVR SAVR Tomatoes by Dr. Arpad Pusztai revealed:

[GM tomatoes: The first and only safety evaluation of a GM crop, the FLAVR SAVRTM tomato, was commissioned by Calgene, as required by the FDA. This GM tomato was produced by inserting kanr genes into a tomato by an ?antisense? GM method. The test has not been peer-reviewed or published but is on the internet.⁸ The results claim there were no significant alterations in total protein, vitamins and mineral contents and in toxic glycoalkaloids.⁹ Therefore, the GM and parent tomatoes were deemed to be ?substantially equivalent.?

In acute toxicity studies with male/female rats, which were tube-fed homogenized GM tomatoes, toxic effects were claimed to be absent. In addition, it was concluded that mean body and organ weights, weight gains, food consumption and clinical chemistry or blood parameters were not significantly different between GM-fed and control groups. However:

Some rats died within a few weeks after eating GM tomatoes.

? The unacceptably wide range of rat starting weights (18% to 23%) invalidated these findings.

? No histology on the intestines was done even though stomach sections showed mild/moderate erosive/necrotic lesions in up to seven out of twenty female rats but none in the controls. However, these were considered to be of no importance, although in humans they could lead to life-endangering hemorrhage, particularly in the elderly who use aspirin to prevent thrombosis.

? Seven out of forty rats on GM tomatoes died within two weeks for unstated reasons.

These studies were poorly designed and therefore the conclusion that FLAVR SAVRTM tomatoes were safe does not rest on good science, questioning the validity of the FDA?s decision that no toxicological testing of other GM foods will in future be required. (actionscienceblog.org)] GMO does not simply cover Plants, it also includes Additives and Animals. They are in fact considered "Novel Foods."

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

K. Lacey

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