

From: foamweapons@gmail.com
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To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Genetic Modifications as Software

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US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

As a computer programmer, the way I see how seeds are genetically modified and patented by Monsanto is disconcerting to me because it's the BIGGEST HACK-JOB in the world.

Imagine if without understanding some software, Monsanto wanted to combine the functionality of two pieces of software... let's say Wordpress and OSCommerce. Instead of writing new code that does the functionality of OSCommerce in Wordpress... Monsanto just keeps ripping out pieces of code from OSCommerce.

Monsanto rips out (DNA) code until the feature is found. Then without understanding any of the repercussions, Monsanto shoves that code into Wordpress and tries running it. The first thousands of times it doesn't work (the cells die or get cancer)... but when it finally does run without errors, Monsanto declares it THEIR new software, and patents it.

Not only did they not know the unintended consequences of this new software (new proteins created by new DNA, other side effects because they didn't understand the DNA coding, etc) - this new software behaves as a virus and infects all other Wordpress software on the internet.

Actually everyone is getting screwed over because this software destroys their existing Wordpress install, and now by lawsuits and other unjust Monsanto practices, everyone else's use of the original FREE Open-Source software (DNA code) is in jeopardy.

As a programmer, I am inclined towards believing that technology can eventually save the world... but the way that Monsanto goes about destroying the existing environment - would be criminal in the software world.

Please levy as many fines as possible (more than DuPont for Teflon, more than Exxon for Valdez)... on Monsanto for destroying genetic diversity, hurting the future of biotechnology and jeopardizing the existing food supply.

Thank you for reading this,

Mark Rieck