June 14, 2006

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: AMENDMENT TO SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CODE ADDING CHAPTER 7.31
ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROPS

Dear Members of the Board:

On June 6, 2006 the Health Services Agency (HSA) presented your Board with a report and recommendations on Genetically Engineered Food Crops in Santa Cruz County. After an oral presentation by the County Health Officer and significant public comment, your Board voted unanimously to direct HSA to work with County Counsel on amending Chapter 7.30 of the Santa Cruz County Code by adding a section, 7.30.090 that would establish a Moratorium that would prohibit the planting and production of genetically engineered (“GE”) crops in Santa Cruz County and return to the Board for public hearing and final approval. County Counsel has determined that for ease of reference and consistency it is appropriate to create a new Chapter 7.31 rather than amending Chapter 7.30.

Proposed Ordinance

As directed by your Board, the proposed ordinance (Attachment A) makes it unlawful for any person to propagate, cultivate, raise, or grow any genetically engineered crop and declares that any act in violation of this prohibition constitutes a public nuisance. The County Health Officer is charged with enforcing the ordinance and is directed to consult with the County Agricultural Commissioner and the University of California Cooperative Extension in carrying out these duties. In addition, the ordinance:

◆ Provides that the Precautionary Moratorium be reevaluated by the Board of Supervisors based upon the Board’s consideration of whether or not the following issues have been resolved, as per the conditions set forth in the report of the GE Subcommittee of the Public Health Commission:
  1. The State of California or the Federal Government implements and enforces its own regulatory system that regulates genetically engineered crops.
2. Field trials of genetically engineered crops are contained to prevent contamination of organic and non-GE crops and weedy relatives.

3. Growing of genetically engineered pharmaceuticals and industrial compounds shall be done in state or federally licensed medical research institutions, medical laboratories, or medical manufacturing facilities engaged in a licensed medical production, and medical research involving genetically modified organisms provided such activities are conducted under secure, enclosed indoor laboratory conditions, with utmost precautions to prevent release of genetically modified organisms into the outside environment.

4. Liability regulations are promulgated that protect organic and conventional farmers and gardeners from contamination by genetically engineered crops, where the financial costs of contamination are borne by the producer of genetically engineered seeds and, only if negligence is found, by the grower of the genetically engineered crops.

5. GE seeds and root-stock shall be labeled so that farmers and gardeners can choose whether or not they want to grow GE crops.

6. The types and location of the GE crops currently being grown and tested in Santa Cruz County shall be communicated to the Health Officer of the County and available to the public upon request. The Agricultural Commissioner will provide support as needed in implementation of the ordinance.

4. Exempts appropriate medical research, as per the conditions set forth above.

Background

Recombinant DNA technology and genetically engineered organisms have long been a concern in the County of Santa Cruz. In 1988, the Board of Supervisors unanimously added Chapter 7.30, to the Santa Cruz County Code “Noticing Requirements, Indemnification and Financial Assurances for the use of Recombinant DNA Technology.”

Summary of Findings

The Board of Supervisors, in consultation with the GE Subcommittee, determined that additional regulation beyond that regulation currently contained in the County Code, i.e. notification, indemnification, and financial assurances relating to the use of recombinant DNA technology contained in Chapter 7.30, is necessary with respect to GE crops. The GE Subcommittee identified the following as critical issues of concern for genetically engineered food crops:

- GE research is currently being performed on a number of crops characteristic of and routinely grown in Santa Cruz, including our high value crops of strawberries, raspberries, broccoli, lettuce, apples, and various ornamental flowers. Of the thirty-nine commercial crops grown in our county, eighteen crops had gross production values in 2004 ranging from $1,462,000 to $194,755,000. GMO or GE research with California field trials is currently being done on five of the top value Santa Cruz crops. In all, the biotechnology industry is conducting case studies, research or field-tests on twenty-seven of our thirty-nine commercial...
crops (See complete list in Appendix 4 – Attachment B). Therefore, the potential exists for GE crops to be grown in Santa Cruz.

- Adequate safeguards do not exist to prevent GE contamination of non-GE crops, plants, insects, domesticated animals, wildlife and wildlands, that can result from forces of nature and human causes. Once GE pollen is released into the environment there is no ability to reverse the process. The resulting impacts on ecosystems are unknown.

- There is inadequate regulatory monitoring and oversight of genetically engineered crops at the federal and state level such that it is impossible to ensure the protection of public and environmental health from potential exposure to Genetically Engineered crops.

- Comprehensive and long-term health testing of the effects of exposure to GE organisms is not required by any government agency. The lack of comprehensive safety testing leaves a potentially dangerous scientific void in the knowledge available about the short and long-term health effects of GE foods.

- Farmers and gardeners who choose not to grow GE crops have no legal recourse if contaminated by GE pollen or seeds.

- There is no legal requirement to label GE seeds or rootstock, thus eliminating farmers’ or gardeners’ choices.

**Environmental

The Health Services Agency, in consultation with County Counsel, has determined that the Ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines section 15308 in that the Ordinance constitutes an action to protect the environment. The Ordinance will protect the environment by prohibiting the planting and production of genetically engineered crops.

**Recommendations

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Conduct a public hearing and approve for first reading the attached proposed Ordinance amending the Santa Cruz County Code adding Chapter 7.31 that would establish a moratorium prohibiting the planting and production of genetically engineered crops in Santa Cruz County; and

2. Find that the Ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15308 as an action to protect the environment and direct staff to file CEQA notice of Exemption with the County Clerk; and
3. Place this item on your next regular agenda for final reading and adoption.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rama Khalsa Ph.D.,
Health Services Agency Director

RECOMMENDED:

[Signature]

Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

Attachments: Attachment A - Ordinance No. ____.
Attachment B – GE Subcommittee Report Appendix 4

cc: County Administrative Office
Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
HSA Administration
Public Health Commission
GE Subcommittee
ORDINANCE NO. __

ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 7.31 TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CODE RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MORATORIUM ON GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROPS

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz ordains as follows:

SECTION I

The Santa Cruz County Code is hereby amended by adding Chapter 7.31 to read as follows:

Chapter 7.31

GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROP MORATORIUM

Sections:
7.31.010 Findings.
7.31.020 Definitions.
7.31.030 Prohibition.
7.31.040 Exemptions.
7.31.050 Revaluation by board of supervisors.
7.31.060 Enforcement.
7.31.070 Severability.

7.31.010 Findings.
A. There is inadequate regulatory monitoring and oversight of genetically engineered crops by the federal and state government necessary to ensure public health and environmental safety. The planting of genetically engineered crops is not required to be publicly disclosed to any federal, state or county agency.
B. Health testing of the effects of exposure to genetically engineered organisms in food is not required by any government agency. The lack of comprehensive safety testing leaves a potentially dangerous scientific void in the knowledge available about the short and long-term health effects of genetically engineered foods.
C. Farmers and gardeners who choose not to grow genetically engineered crops currently have no clear legal recourse if their non-genetically engineered crops are contaminated by genetically engineered pollen or seeds.
D. There is currently no legal requirement to label genetically engineered seeds or rootstock, thus limiting farmers’ or gardeners’ choices.
E. Currently, adequate safeguards do not exist to prevent genetically engineered contamination of non-genetically engineered crops, plants, insects, domesticated animals, wildlife and wildlands, that can result from forces of nature and human causes. The resulting impacts on ecosystems are unknown.
7.30.020 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, certain words and phrases used in this chapter are defined as follows:

A. “Genetically engineered crop” means a crop that has been created or modified through genetic engineering. It does not include nonliving or nonreproducing organisms or products.

B. “Genetic engineering” means a process or technology employed whereby the hereditary apparatus of a living cell is altered, modified or changed so that the cell can produce more or different chemicals or perform completely new functions.

C. “Person” means any individual, firm, partnership, trust, corporation, company, estate, public or private institution, association, organization or group, and any representative, officer, employee or agent of any of the foregoing.

D. “Release” means to discharge, emit or liberate any genetically engineered organism, or the product of a genetically engineered organism into the open environment.

7.31.030 Prohibition.

It is unlawful for any person to propagate, cultivate, raise, or grow any genetically engineered crop. Any act in violation of this prohibition is declared to constitute a public nuisance.

7.31.040 Exemptions.

The prohibition contained in this chapter shall not apply to the planting or production of genetically engineered pharmaceuticals and industrial compounds done in state or federally licensed medical research institutions, medical laboratories, or medical manufacturing facilities engaged in a licensed medical production, and medical research involving genetically modified organisms provided such activities are conducted under secure, enclosed indoor laboratory conditions, with utmost precautions to prevent release of genetically modified organisms into the outside environment.

7.31.050 Reevaluation by board of supervisors.

In its discretion, the board of supervisors may consider the on-going need for the prohibition on genetically engineered food crops contained in section 7.31.030. If the board of supervisors determines that the prohibition is no longer necessary it shall amend this chapter in a manner consistent with that determination. The board of supervisors may consider, including but not limited to, the following factors:

A. If the State of California and or the Federal Government has implemented and effectively enforced its own regulatory system that regulates genetically engineered crops.

B. If field trials of genetically engineered crops are required to be contained to prevent contamination of organic and non-genetically engineered crops and weedy relatives.

C. If liability regulations are promulgated that protect organic and conventional farmers and gardeners from contamination by genetically engineered crops, where the financial costs of contamination are borne by the producer of genetically engineered seeds and, only if negligence is found, by the grower of the genetically engineered crops.
D. If genetically engineered seeds and root-stock shall be required to be labeled so that farmers and gardeners can choose whether or not they want to grow genetically engineered crops.

E. If the types and location of the genetically engineered crops currently being grown and tested in Santa Cruz County shall be communicated to the Agricultural Commissioner and available to the public upon request.

7.3 1.060 Enforcement.

A. It shall be the duty of the health officer of the county of Santa Cruz to enforce this chapter, and all designated officers of the health officer are charged with the enforcement of this chapter and each and every provision thereof. The health officer shall consult with the agricultural commissioner of the county of Santa Cruz and the University of California Cooperative Extension in carrying its duties under this ordinance.

B. Any person, whether as principal or agent, employee or otherwise, who knowingly violates or causes or permits the violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail of the county of a term not exceeding six months or by both such fine and imprisonment. Such person shall be deemed to be guilty of a separate offense for each day during any portion of which any violation of this chapter is committed, continued or permitted by such person and shall be punishable as herein provided.

C. Any use of the land, building or premises, established, conducted, operated or maintained contrary to the provisions of this chapter, shall be, and the same is declared to be a violation of this chapter and a public nuisance.

D. The county may summarily abate, or abate pursuant to Chapter 1.14 of this code, any public nuisance and the county counsel or the district attorney, upon order of the board of supervisors, may bring civil suit, or other action, to enjoin or abate the nuisance.

E. Each day any violation of this chapter continues shall be regarded as a new and separate offense. The remedies provided in this chapter shall be cumulative and not exclusive.

F. Any person who creates or maintains a public nuisance in violation of this chapter shall be liable for the costs of abatement that shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Costs of investigation;  
2. Costs of removing genetically engineered crops from the open environment, cleanup and restoration of the environment;  
3. Cost of county employee enforcement time;  
4. Court costs; and  
5. Costs of monitoring compliance.

G. Should an enforcement action be filed by the County pursuant to this chapter, no action shall be taken on any application relating to the property upon which the GE crops were located until the violation has been resolved.
7.31.070 Severability.

The provisions of this chapter are severable. If any section, paragraph, sentence, phrase or word of this chapter is declared invalid for any reason, that decision shall not affect any other portion of this chapter, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION II

This ordinance shall take effect on the 31st day after the date of final passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of ____________, 2006, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS
ABSTAIN: SUPERVISORS

Attest: ____________________________  ____________________________
            Clerk of the Board            Chairperson of the Board of
Supervisors

Approved as to form:

______________________________
Assistant County Counsel
### Appendix 4

Current California GE Research on Commercial Crops
(All Crops Listed Below Are Grown in Santa Cruz County)

<table>
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Dear Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

The Wild Farm Alliance, a national nonprofit agriculture organization located in Watsonville, is in support of the precautionary moratorium on the planting of genetically engineered (GE) crops until more is understood about the issue.

Too much are at risk in our County to allow loosely regulated, and little known consequences of GE ruin our health, environment and farmer’s right to farm without genetic pollution. Human health research has shown higher risks of toxicity, allergies, antibiotic resistance, immune-suppression and cancer. Consumers have no way of knowing how much of their food supply contains GE unless they purchase organic foods. Now, our local organic farmers are under threat of GE pollution.

From the native strawberries to native pines, GE could cause irreparable biological pollution of these wild plants. Important questions are whether new invasive species will be created, the genetic make-up of native species will be diluted, native species will be out-right killed, or ecosystems will be inundated with excessive amounts of toxins. Research to date does show that GE organisms can hybridize with plants and wildlife in native populations. We are already seeing how herbicide tolerance is conferred to wild plants, creating super weeds that require heavier-duty herbicides to control them. With the development of a host of GE traits, from frost, heat, salinity, insect and disease tolerance, to stress tolerance and the ability to fix nitrogen, hybridization with wild species could create additional super invasive weeds that move out of their current ranges and into sensitive ecosystems.

Introducing new genes into a system without thorough examination is similar to introducing non-native, invasive species. A hundred years ago no one thought about the repercussions of bringing in starlings, English sparrows, pampas grass, Scotch broom or puncture vine. Invasive species cost the U.S. more than a billion dollars annually, and displace many local wildlife food plants and native animals themselves.

The disturbing case of the Canadian canola farmer losing his livelihood because Monsanto’s GE pollen drifting into his fields could happen in Santa Cruz County with many of our local crops and farmers. How many farmers in our community have the ability to go up against this giant, if in fact GE pollution did occur, or would they just go out of business? Currently, there are 17 Santa Cruz food crops in the GE pipeline, and no government oversight tracking whether these are being trialed in our County, nor whether they are subsequently disbursing GE pollen.

6/16/2006
The Wild Farm Alliance promotes agriculture that protects and restores wild Nature. We support the need of farmers to succeed economically while farming ecologically and the right of consumers to know how and where their food is grown. The health of our human and wild communities is worth the minimal costs to the County of instituting a GE ordinance. Please continue to vote for on this precautionary moratorium.

Thank you,

Jo Ann Baumgartner, Director
To the SC County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing you as a resident and gardener in SC County. I want to applaud your efforts at restricting the planting of GMO crops in Santa Cruz County until they can be proven safe.

As a gardener, and as a parent I want to know that the organic food that I am growing is not being contaminated by pollen from GMO plantings from neighboring crops.

GMO crops create new proteins in their cells and these new proteins can cause allergies and severe health problems in humans and animals. In one recent study, baby rats fed GMO feed did not grow properly and had malformed internal organs compared to the control group fed non-GMO feed which grew normally. Further reports just this spring have indicated that 1500 sheep in India grazing on GMO cotton plants after the cotton had been harvested, died from an adverse reaction to the toxic effects of the GMO technology. GMO technology is known by the industry itself to deal with proteins that are toxic and allergenic to humans. Contamination of corn for humans with Starlink GMO corn caused the recall of millions of dollars of corn products that were contaminated and already on the supermarket shelves.

I grow my own organic food, I have food allergies and I do not want to be the guinea pig for some special corporate interest that wants to experiment with my health in order to underwrite their profits. I have read the GMO Advisory Committee report to the board of Supervisors and it makes it clear that GMO crops have not been tested independently, THEY ARE TESTED BY THE COMPANY THAT MAKES THE PROFIT!! The USDA and the FDA are not doing their job to protect the public health. How can they when the regulatory agencies are staffed by a revolving door of workers from Monsanto and other agribusiness companies that profit from the unrestricted use of GMO technology?

It is right that Santa Cruz County set up health and safety standards to restrict this GMO technology since corporate special interests have undue influence on the regulatory agencies at the state and federal level.

Even more outrageous is the idea that pharmaceutical crops can be grown in open air trials in Santa Cruz County. My garden can be cross pollinated by crops that have human genes or drugs spliced into them. This must be stopped at once.

Please pass the ordinance based on the well researched findings of the Advisory committee report. Keep GMO plantings out of Santa Cruz County, out of my garden and out of my food!
Thank you.
Sincerely,
Karen Horton and my family
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006  
Item Number : 64

Comments :
Regarding G.E. Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance in Santa Cruz County

My name is Dr. Karl Maret and I am writing to urge you to support the G.E. Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance being considered by this board on June 20, 2006.

My training is as a medical doctor, bio-medical engineer, and researcher in complementary and alternative medicine for the last 25 years. I am advocating this as a concerned citizen who considers the whole issue of genetically engineered foods to be a potential hazard until and unless extensive scientific studies have unequivocally demonstrated that these substances are safe. My reasons for supporting this Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance are as follows:

1. Genetically-modified DNA is totally unlike natural DNA and includes gene sequences that are completely synthesized in the laboratory, differing significantly from their natural counterparts. It contains changes from the donor natural organism that were necessary to overcome genetic differences between species. These synthetic DNA sequences are capable of causing mutational and other genome rearrangements including cancer. In addition GE DNA contains a high proportion of viral and bacterial DNA, known to cause immune reactions in humans.

2. The central dogma underpinning genetic engineering - whereby one gene is supposedly responsible for one protein and hence one trait - has long been superseded by the "fluid genome," in which the expression and structure of genes are constantly changing under the influence of the environment. This means that if GE DNA becomes incorporated into the environment of natural plants under uncontrolled conditions it may lead to unexpected long-term results that could contaminate and potentially endanger our food supply. It is therefore vital that testing conditions for this type of GE product be tested under the most stringent safety conditions which are at present not being demonstrated by our regulatory agencies.

3. There is great potential for allergic reactions to GE DNA products because of the synthetic nature of GE products. If these GE plants enter into the food chain they have the potential of creating a great health burden to an unsuspecting population which could be a great financial burden to our community.

4. There is an increasing movement for molecular "pharming" which is the use of GE crops to produce pharmaceuticals. California-based Ventrina Bioscience has been at the forefront of pharm crop development which raised a storm of opposition causing it to be driven out of California in 2004. Without...
detailed knowledge of what researchers and corporations are planting possible GE crops, especially those involved in molecular pharming research, it may be likely that abnormal genetic strains may arise in the environment that could have a direct detrimental effect on human health. The safety of these and other transgenic proteins for human beings is highly questionable. Certain proteins created in this way have been implicated in asthma with fatal consequences and may contribute to emphysema. They may possibly trigger diseases as yet unknown, connected with the inability of human cells to break them down. An industry website (http://www.molecularfarming.com) gives an overview of the extensive nature that the GE industry is planning to produce "antibodies, edible vaccines, proteins, flavorings, and bio-degradable plastics," among others, that are in the industrial pipeline and capable of massively impacting our natural environment. Adequate long-term safety studies do not as yet exist for many of these products.

In view of the very poor oversight process of our regulatory agencies as clearly outlined in the Report from the GE Subcommittee of the Public Health Commission, dated May 2006, that is now under consideration by you, our County Board of Supervisors, I strongly urge your adoption of the GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance to protect the health and welfare of the citizens and the farming communities in Santa Cruz County.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Karl Maret
430 Cliff Drive
Aptos, CA 95003
831 688-1133

6/19/2006
Dear Supervisor,

I am a member of the Santa Cruz County Genetic Engineering Subcommittee, appointed to represent the 3rd District. I am a researcher at the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems at the University of California, Santa Cruz and I have a PhD in Rural Sociology from the University of Missouri.

I support the recommendations of the GE Subcommittee to implement a moratorium on planting and growing GE crops in Santa Cruz County. There are many reasons why this action is needed, as we have detailed in our report, such as safeguarding the health of county residents, protecting our local environment, and ensuring the continued economic growth of organic farming. Thank you for voting to approve our recommendations.

I wish to highlight some of the social impacts of this technology, which do not usually receive as much attention as health and environmental issues. Genetic engineering is a very expensive technology that has been commercialized primarily by a handful of multinational chemical and pharmaceutical companies. These companies have spent billions of dollars acquiring seed companies to monopolize the sale of genetic engineered organisms at multiple stages of the food system. As a result, farmers and consumers now have fewer choices for seeds and food crops, even for non-genetically engineered varieties. For example, Monsanto is estimated to control more than 40% of fruit and vegetable seed sales in the United States, and one of their many seed companies eliminated 2,000 conventional varieties in June, 2000.

At the national level, these companies helped ensure that genetically engineered organisms were introduced with minimal public oversight. Until the governments of California and the United States take stronger steps to regulate genetically engineered crops, and provide the public a greater voice in the future of our food supply, Santa Cruz County should implement a precautionary moratorium on their use.

Sincerely,

6/19/2006
I whole heartedly support a moratorium on planting genetically modified seeds in Santa Cruz county until there is scientific evidence that specific modifications to specific seeds are entirely safe for generations of these specific crops to both human and animal life and to the soil and water connected to the growing of these specific crops.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Saturday, June 17, 2006 1:03PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Tawn Kennedy
Email: tawn.kennedy@gmail.com

Address: 124 Towhee Dr
Santa Cruz
CA
Phone: 831-459-9247

Comments:
Dear County Board of Supervisors,

I am very much in support of the research, findings and recommendations of the Santa Cruz County GE Subcommittee to place a moratorium on planting and growing of Genetically Engineered crops in Santa Cruz until sufficient regulations are developed and enforced at the state level. I appreciate your decision, and thank you for putting the public interest first in this most pressing issue.

I work with a few local educational programs, two of which are garden-based. I am concerned about many factors surrounding this issue: retaining local ability to ensure our community's food security and safety, the possibilities for genetic drift into non-GE crops, and the disastrous potentials for adverse health and ecosystem repercussions. It is disturbing to me that the state has been cowed into non-action in terms of developing regulatory measures on GE research and crops. It seems that biotech companies have effectively used their political sway to ensure their interests are protected. With the lack of sufficient regulation, it is essential that we enact appropriate measures at the local level. I applaud the vote of the Supervisors to approve this matter and take local control of the health and well being of our community.

As you know currently there are moves at the state level to reduce or eliminate local control in these and other matters. This illogical and disingenuous attempt to prevent local communities from protecting their environment and citizens is very disturbing especially in light of the fact that the state has little or no regulatory control of GE crops; and therefore it would result in a regulatory void for a new technology that has not been properly assessed or tested for human health and environmental impacts.

Your vote has helped Santa Cruz take a leadership role by putting in place some common sense safeguards.

Sincerely,

Tawn Kennedy
Director,
Delaveaga Elementary School
Life Lab

6/19/2006
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Name : John Robbins

Email : john@yesworld.org

Address : 420 Bronco Road, Soquel, CA 95073

Phone : 831-465-1079

Comments :
I'm writing in support of the Genetically Engineered Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance, and to thank you for supporting it. As a bestselling author on food safety issues, and having written a bestselling book (The Food Revolution) dealing with the promises and dangers of genetically modified foods, I recognize the imperative need to follow the precautionary principle with this technology. Thank you very much. John Robbins
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Name : gloria lorenzo

Address : 585-36th Ave.
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062-5116

Comments :
Thank You, I support the moratorium on GE crops in Santa Cruz County.
Dear Santa Cruz County Supervisors,

I'm writing to ask for your continued support of the Santa Cruz County GE Subcommittee recommendations - to place a moratorium on planting and growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz County.

The subcommittee's regulations are outstanding - to enact a moratorium until the State starts providing proper oversight on GE crops. Currently, there is not proper state or federal oversight. This situation can cause tremendous damage to farmers who do not wish to grow theses crops and to the public who would be harmed by pharmaceutical crops breeding with food crops. And these are just two of many possible, even likely, problems that come from improper growing of GE foods.

As a Santa Cruz County consumer, and one that eats local foods, I do not want to unknowingly eat any genetically altered food (there is little testing of these foods for health impacts). As a researcher of food system issues at UCSC, I'm also aware of several other potential concerns regarding genetically altered food. There simply hasn't yet been enough testing of these plants to let them intermingle with our food supply. If a problem is found down the road, there is no way to recall it.

Please pass the ordinance based on the findings of the Advisory committee report.

Sincerely,
Jan Perez
I am very much in favor in supporting the Precautionary Moratorium for GE Crops. We have enough manufactured food in this country. Please do not play god with the food we put in our bodies, or our dirt we grow them in.

Sincerely,
Deborah Cohen-Davis

(A Homeowner in Pleasure Point)
Dear members of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors:

I fully support your decision to adopt a GE Precautionary Moratorium, and support the GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance. I recently graduated from the Panetta Institute and CSUMB after studying food policy issues. Things won’t change in the realm of food security until we promote public policies that question the motivation of businesses who make money selling food. They should be able to meet health and safety standards, at the very least, and be able to explain the consequences to consumers of eating their food.

Thanks for your efforts.

Ellen Farmer, MPP
Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Item Number: 64

Name: Christine Murray

Email: philomel888@hotmail.com

Address: 412 Escalona Dr
Santa Cruz CA 95060

Phone: 831 818-8801

Comments:
I do not support Genetically engineered food. Please add Chapter 7.31 to the County Code.
I strongly support the Genetic Engineering Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance in Santa Cruz County for the following reasons.

The risks of introducing GE crops to any ecosystem far outweigh the unsubstantiated reward possibilities. So long as our federal and state governments have not had the sense to demand more testing and safety measures, it must fall on the grass-roots nature of this county to call for at least our safety, first, and hopefully more widespread safety in yet more time.

As a top (if not still THE top) Organic county in the U.S., we have much more to lose when pollens spread beyond individual farm landmarks.

We can promote better science by demanding it before participating with our lives and livelihoods in any unscientific claims, of which GE literature is clearly full.

Thank you for your caring about what so many of us are concerned about - for ALL of our good.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 8:57 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Eric Thiermann
Address: 2888 Sandy Lane
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Item Number: 64
Email: eric@hdcontent.tv
Phone: 831 419-2352

Comments:
I don’t want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.

6/19/2006
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 9:12 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Name: Austin Miller
Address: Not Supplied

Comments:
I don't want untested Genetically Altered food.
Thank you for supporting the precautionary moritorium in SC county.
From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 9:14 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Name : Gigi Brisson
Email : gigib@yahoo.com

Address : 110 Laguna St
Santa Cruz, CA
Phone : 6506858542

Comments :
I don't want untested Genetically Altered food. Please prohibit these crops.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 9:20 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Paul Lundahl
Email: Not Supplied

Address: Not Supplied
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
This is an important moratorium. Protect our children's future and send this message that genetically modified crops are unsafe!

Thank you!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Meeting Date</strong></th>
<th>6/20/2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Item Number</strong></td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
<td>Stephen Laufer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:steve@artnation.com">steve@artnation.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Address**      | 2761 Fresno Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062 |
| **Phone**        | 831.476.4456 |

**Comments:**
Please support a moratorium to prohibit the planting and production of genetically engineered crops in Santa Cruz county. Please help protect the people and farmers in SC County.

Sincerely, Stephen Laufer
Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Ian Goodwin

Address: Not Supplied

Email: Not Supplied

Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
I don't want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.
From: CBD BOSMAIL  
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 9:42 AM  
To: CBD BOSMAIL  
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Virginia Lee Roberts

Address: 70 Cathedral Park Drive  
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

Item Number: 64

Email: vroberts@ucsc.edu

Phone: 427-2990

Comments:

Please, no genetically modified food in Santa Cruz County. Keep Santa Cruz pure! That's why we all live here. It's an oasis of consciousness. And really good food. Let's keep it that way.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 9:47 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Douglas Ardley
Address: Not Supplied

Comments:
I do not want genetically engineered agriculture anywhere in Santa Cruz County. Please pass a moratorium on such activity.
Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Jim Clark

Address: Not Supplied

Email: jsclark123@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 831 566-7709

Item Number: 64

Comments:
Please don't allow food from untested genetically altered sources.
Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Robert Chapler

Address: 234 Woodview Dr.
Ben Lomond, CA

Item Number: 64

Email: chaplercom@cruzio.com

Phone: 465-9030

Comments:
Please, I do not want untested, genetically altered food in Santa Cruz County.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 10:09 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Paula Mahoney
Email: Paula-Mahoney@cable.cornCast.com

Address: 411 Escalona Drive
Santa Cruz, CA 95066
Phone: (831) 440-4076

Comments:
I do not want genetically modified or altered food to be sold in Santa Cruz County. My Granddaughter, Julia, has severe food allergies which greatly impact her health. The only way to keep her safe day to day is to know exactly what she is eating. Adding the genes from one food into another in order to increase shelf-life or provide protection from insects might be economically efficient or convenient for agri-business, but it would gravely impact the day to day lives of thousands of people for whom food choices are already limited.

If rice is modified with a gene from wheat, she will no longer be able to eat rice. I think you get my point. I hope you will consider people like Julia when it is time to make your decision.

Thank You
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 10:09 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006  
Item Number: 64

Name: Brian Todd  
Email: brian@cjcg.com

Address: Not Supplied  
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
I don't want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 10:32 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Brian Critchlow

Address: Capitola, CA

Item Number: 64

Email: Not Supplied

Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
I don’t want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.
Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a member of the GE Subcommittee, I wanted to say that I think the County Counsel did and excellent job representing the recommendations of the subcommittee in the proposed language of the ordinance and I urge the Board of Supervisors to approve the ordinance as written.

Sincerely,

Arty Mangan
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Name : Dina Scoppettone

Address : Not Supplied

Email : ds@dinascoppettone.com

Phone : Not Supplied

Comments :
"I don't want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county."
From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 10:43 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Joy K Haley
Email: joykhaley@hotmail.com
Address: 4830 Topaz Street
Capitola, Ca 95010
Phone: 831.477.0449

Comments:
I don't want untested Genetically Altered food.
Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.

Joy Haley
I don't want untested Genetically altered food... Full testing of technology before application! No testing on human populations.
I am a member of the Santa Cruz County Genetic Engineering Subcommittee, appointed to represent the 3rd District. I am a researcher at the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems at the University of California, Santa Cruz and I have a PhD in Rural Sociology from the University of Missouri.

I support the recommendations of the GE Subcommittee to implement a moratorium on planting and growing GE crops in Santa Cruz County. There are many reasons why this action is needed, as we have detailed in our report, such as safeguarding the health of county residents, protecting our local environment, and ensuring the continued economic growth of organic farming. Thank you for voting to approve our recommendations.

I wish to highlight some of the social impacts of this technology, which do not usually receive as much attention as health and environmental issues. Genetic engineering is a very expensive technology that has been commercialized primarily by a handful of multinational chemical and pharmaceutical companies. These companies have spent billions of dollars acquiring seed companies to monopolize the sale of genetic engineered organisms at multiple stages of the food system. As a result, farmers and consumers now have fewer choices for seeds and food crops, even for non-genetically engineered varieties. For example, Monsanto is estimated to control more than 40% of fruit and vegetable seed sales in the United States, and one of their many seed companies eliminated 2,000 conventional varieties in June, 2000.

At the national level, these companies helped ensure that genetically engineered organisms were introduced with minimal public oversight. Until the governments of California and the United States take stronger steps to regulate genetically engineered crops, and provide the public a greater voice in the future of our food supply, Santa Cruz County should implement a precautionary moratorium on their use.

Sincerely,
6/19/2006
My name is Dr. Karl Maret and I am writing to urge you to support the G.E. Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance being considered by this board on June 20, 2006.

My training is as a medical doctor, bio-medical engineer, and researcher in complementary and alternative medicine for the last 25 years. I am advocating this as a concerned citizen who considers the whole issue of genetically engineered foods to be a potential hazard until and unless extensive scientific studies have unequivocally demonstrated that these substances are safe. My reasons for supporting this Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance are as follows:

1. Genetically-modified DNA is totally unlike natural DNA and includes gene sequences that are completely synthesized in the laboratory, differing significantly from their natural counterparts. It contains changes from the donor natural organism that were necessary to overcome genetic differences between species. These synthetic DNA sequences are capable of causing mutational and other genome rearrangements including cancer. In addition GE DNA contains a high proportion of viral and bacterial DNA, known to cause immune reactions in humans.

2. The central dogma underpinning genetic engineering - whereby one gene is supposedly responsible for one protein and hence one trait - has long been superseded by the "fluid genome," in which the expression and structure of genes are constantly changing under the influence of the environment. This means that if GE DNA becomes incorporated into the environment of natural plants under uncontrolled conditions it may lead to unexpected long-term results that could contaminate and potentially endanger our food supply. It is therefore vital that testing conditions for this type of GE product be tested under the most stringent safety conditions which are at present not being demonstrated by our regulatory agencies.

3. There is great potential for allergic reactions to GE DNA products because of the synthetic nature of GE products. If these GE plants enter into the food chain they have the potential of creating a great health burden to an unsuspecting population which could be a great financial burden to our community.

4. There is an increasing movement for molecular "pharming" which is the use of GE crops to produce pharmaceuticals. California-based Ventrina Bioscience has been at the forefront of pharm crop development which raised a storm of opposition causing it to be driven out of California in 2004. Without
detailed knowledge of what researchers and corporations are planting possible GE crops, especially those involved in molecular pharming research, it may be likely that abnormal genetic strains may arise in the environment that could have a direct detrimental effect on human health. The safety of these and other transgenic proteins for human beings is highly questionable. Certain proteins created in this way have been implicated in asthma with fatal consequences and may contribute to emphysema. They may possibly trigger diseases as yet unknown, connected with the inability of human cells to break them down. An industry website (http://www.molecularfarming.com) gives an overview of the extensive nature that the GE industry is planning to produce "antibodies, edible vaccines, proteins, flavorings, and bio-degradable plastics," among others, that are in the industrial pipeline and capable of massively impacting our natural environment. Adequate long-term safety studies do not as yet exist for many of these products.

In view of the very poor oversight process of our regulatory agencies as clearly outlined in the Report from the GE Subcommittee of the Public Health Commission, dated May 2006, that is now under consideration by you, our County Board of Supervisors, I strongly urge your adoption of the GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance to protect the health and welfare of the citizens and the farming communities in Santa Cruz County.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Karl Maret
430 Cliff Drive
Aptos, CA 95003
831 688-1133

6/19/2006
Dear Supervisors,

I thank you for your recent note to place a moratorium on planting and growing G.E. crops in our county. Once again, the state government regulatory agencies have failed to meet their obligations to protect the public. I applaud the decision of your board to approve this matter and let us take local control of our health and well-being.

Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Judy Becker

# 64
Dear Supervisors,

I am very appreciative of and grateful to you and the GE Subcommittee for all that has been accomplished over the better part of this past year.

The Report from the GE Subcommittee of the Public Health Commission May, 2006, not only confirms what I have been studying for almost a decade about the risks and problems associated with genetic engineering, but it further educates and informs me. I believe this work can be cited with great pride by everyone involved and by Santa Cruz County as a whole.

Please know that as a nurse who was a public school nurse working with children and families for twenty-one years, and as a mother and concerned citizen, I continue to support your unanimous passage of the precautionary moratorium on the growing of genetically engineered crops in Santa Cruz County. We all owe this much and more to the land, to those with whom we share the land in the present and the future, and to ourselves.

Thank you for unequivocally enacting the Subcommittee's recommendations.

Sincerely,

Katharine Herndon

Katharine Herndon
134 Dakota Avenue, #110
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

June 19, 2006
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 3:04 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Victor Schiffrin
Email: Not Supplied

Address: 152 Hagemann Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
Genetically altered food must be thoroughly tested and labeled prior to being offered for sale.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 1:15 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006  
Item Number: 64

Name: Wesley Van Camp  
Email: wesley@bookandbook.com

Address: 332 B Main Street  
Phone: (831) 423-3523
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Comments:
As a member of the GE Subcommittee, I believe that the proposed ordinance amending the Santa Cruz County Code adding Chapter 7.31, accurately reflects the recommendations presented to the Board of Supervisors in the GE Subcommittee report. In addition, I commend the drafting by County Counsel of the substantive enforcement provisions, and find that such provision are essential to an effective ordinance.
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Name : lakshmi narayan

Address : Not Supplied

Comments :
I do not want untested genetically altered food.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 3:11 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Maria Alfaro
Email: maria@yogadventure.com

Address: 1452 El Dorado Avenue
Santa Cruz
CA 95062
Phone: 831-462 1846

Comments:
Dear Board members,
first of all thank you for your concern about the important issue of GE agriculture!

I am writing you in support of the GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance in the Santa Cruz county.
My strong preference is for an eventual ban of these ungodly and dangerous organisms!

I am sure that you are receiving lots of mail on this so I will keep my message brief and to the point!
Please protect our land and the health of future generations.
Thank you very much
Sincerely
Maria Alfaro

6/19/2006
Our local farms and gardens need to be protected from the unknown and irreversible impact of contamination by GE pollen.

Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 1:27 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Angie Christmann
Email: Not Supplied

Address: Not Supplied
Phone: 423-4864

Comments:
Please pass this moratorium. Much of Europe does not accept import of GE foodstuffs; African nations offered aid have rejected GE grains (sources: NPR radio programs). 80% of the corn grown in Minnesota is now GE. We need to see better education of Americans re this issue so that we can choose the kinds of food we eat, and more importantly we need to know that our organic crops and gardens are not threatened by escaping GE pollens and seeds. This moratorium will help us locally while the rest of the issue is being sorted out on a wider scale. Please pass this moratorium.
From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 2:20 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Dena Taylor
Address: Soquel 95073

Item Number: 64

Email: Not Supplied
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
I do not want untested genetically altered food.
Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in Santa Cruz County.
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Item Number : 64

Name : ziggy rendler bregman

Email : Not Supplied

Address : Not Supplied

Phone : Not Supplied

Comments :
RE agenda item # 64

We live in such a health conscious community making great effort to promote consumption of organically grown fruits and vegetable.

Please consider the effort we are all making to live with respect to our environment and keep out genetically modified food from our County. thank you

Resident for 30 years
first district-Ziggy
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 3:08 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006  
Item Number: 64

Name: Karen Hilker  
Email: Not Supplied

Address: Not Supplied  
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:  
I support prohibiting the planting and production of genetically engineered crops in Santa Cruz County. I'm a county resident, since 1990. Thank you!
Meeting Date: 6/20/2006  

Item Number: 64

Name: Peggy Miars

Email: peggy@ccof.org

Address: 11 15 Mission Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Phone: 423-2263

Comments:
I won't restate my comments, which I previously submitted when this topic was discussed at your June 6th meeting. I will, however, take this opportunity to urge you to pass the ordinance on GE crops. Your subcommittee thoroughly researched the issue and presented their findings in their report. Please adopt their recommendation to adopt a precautionary moratorium on GE crops in Santa Cruz County. Thank you very much.
Thank you for taking this measure to prohibit the planting and production of genetically engineered crops in Santa Cruz County.

Scientists have very little knowledge of the unintended consequences which may accompany introduction of genetic engineering. We have already seen invasive species wreak havoc in many parts of the world, including our own community.

I appreciate the wisdom of the Board of Supervisors in taking this important stand against uncontrolled genetic modification across our landscape.

Ron Swenson
Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Mary Offermann

Address: 831 Hanover Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Email: moffermann@hotmail.com

Phone: 427-2568

Item Number: 64

Comments:
Please protect the valuable agriculture in Santa Cruz County from pollination by GMOs. The health of our children and of our economy depend on preventing this contamination, which cannot be controlled, as winds carry pollen beyond barriers.
I do not want genetically engineered food grown in Santa Cruz County. Thank you. Jill Hofmann
I do not want genetically engineered food grown in Santa Cruz County. Thank you. Jill Hofmann
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 11:36 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Viktoria Vidali

Address: 245M Mt. Hermon Road #307
Scotts Valley CA 95066

Email: uneco@uneco.org
Phone: Not Supplied

Item Number: 64

Comments:
I don't want untested Genetically Altered food in our area. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county."
From: CBD BOSMAIL  
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 11:32 AM  
To: CBD BOSMAIL  
Subject: Agenda Comments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>6/20/2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item Number</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Denise O'Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Not Supplied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>Dbo@<a href="mailto:1@aol.com">1@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>Not Supplied</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Comments:
Please, no Genetically Engineered food. I fully support the moratorium.
"I don't want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county."
20 June 2006

Dear Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you so much for being proactive on the genetic engineering (GE) issue in Santa Cruz County. I whole-heartedly support the passage of a county ordinance that would put in place measures to protect human health and the environment from GE contamination of our food supply.

As a nurse, I am particularly concerned about the potential adverse effects of eating GE foods. Based on the findings of the GE Subcommittee report, I have learned that the production of GE crops may create new food allergens, the effects of which are unknown and unstudied. This raises serious concerns for me as a caretaker of our community’s health and well-being.

An equally important concern of mine is the unique vulnerability of pregnant women, their growing babies, infants and children to pesticides and crop protectants that have been inserted into GE crops. There are ample reasons to worry about GE food developmental effects (in humans, farm animals, and pets) since existing GE technologies often involve changes in regulatory genes and proteins as well as hormonal impacts such as those seen in rBGH treated cows. All of these changes in the composition of food could alter developmental trajectories and/or increase health risks of pregnant women.

I personally believe the total absence of any serious consideration of developmental impacts of GE crops is the most glaring and worrisome gap in our current understanding of GE food safety.

I urge you to support the passage of a Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance on the growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Robin Chase, RN
Visiting Nurses Association
Santa Cruz, California
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 4:55 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64
Name: Celia Scott
Email: twinks2@cruzio.com
Address: 1520 Escalona Drive, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: 831-429-6166

Comments:
As a long time resident of Santa Cruz County, environmental attorney, and supporter/consumer of organic agriculture, I am writing to support the GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance before the Board of Supervisors on June 20. The fundamental reasons to support a precautionary moratorium on this gigantic GE biological experiment are well stated in the findings of the ordinance. I congratulate the Board for its willingness to address this difficult issue and to take an action which will support the health, welfare and safety of the residents of Santa Cruz County and the growing of uncontaminated food in our community.
Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Celia Scott
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 5:10 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 6/20/2006
Item Number : 62.6
Name : allison vitug
Email : asharpe@cruzio.com
Address : 121 sutphen street
Phone : 831-427-1010
Comments :
I do not want untested genetically altered food.
Meetings: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Ken Dickerson
Email: kenj dickerson@yahoo.com
Address: 1940 17th Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Phone: 831-462-4477

Comments:
Dear Supervisors,

I strongly encourage you add Chapter 7.31 to the County Code as written and adopt a precautionary Moratorium restricting the planting and production of GMO crops in Santa Cruz County.

The Advisory Committee's report, which was signed by the Ag Commissioner and representatives from the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau, clearly outlines the hazardous lack of proper regulation and oversight on GMO crops and crops used to produce drugs and chemicals. There is no adequate oversight from federal agencies and no mandate whatsoever from the CA State agencies. Santa Cruz County needs the Precautionary Moratorium to protect the interests of the public health until long-term, human health studies can be conducted and reviewed by independent agencies.

Furthermore, the economic interests of Santa Cruz County's organic farmers must be protected so that they are not held liable for GMO pollution of their organic crops. All farmers must be protected from contamination by patented gmo genes that contaminate crops in the form of drift of genetically polluted gmo pollens, giving the patent holders rights over the farmer's crop even if the farmer did not want to be contaminated. Indeed, some of these pollens contain genes which come from humans, animals and bacteria used to produce pharmaceutical drugs and industrial chemicals. These things must not be allowed to continue to pollute and contaminate our food supply.

The Precautionary moratorium is a CONSERVATIVE measure given the evidence found by your thorough and diligent advisory committee.

Sincerely,

Ken Dickerson
Grange Master
Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange #503

6/20/2006
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 6:10 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Thomas Wittman

Address: 8315 Hermosa Ave
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

Email: twittman@cruzio.com

Phone: 831-336-2852

Comments:
Dear Supervisors,
I commend you for taking the potential for harm from untested GE crops to the citizens of Santa Cruz County seriously. I commented on the June 6 meeting and I hope your resolve is true and that you sign this very important step into a reality. This is a very critical act, especially in Santa Cruz County where so much of the organic industry was born. I thank the task force for the excellent, thorough job they did and the obvious conclusion it draws that we in Santa Cruz need to protect our children, our land and our selves.
Thank you,
Thomas Wittman
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 6:40 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: John F. Cowan
Email: jcbiz@pacbell.net

Address: 613 Navarra Dr
Scotts Valley, CA 95066
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
I ask the Board to pass the GE Precautionary Moratorium. We must slow down the heedless proliferation of GE plant and animal life and be sure that non-GE plants are not endangered. I wish that the County could mandate labelling of GE foodstuffs.

Thank you.

John Cowan

6/20/2006
Hi board members,

I strongly believe that U.S. citizens should be informed if they are getting any genetically engineered crops in the food that they buy. 
I urge you to support a GE Precautionary Moratorium.

I am a local, yoga teacher and SF Hakomi psychotherapy student. I go the Santa Cruz farmers market every Wed. to support the local farmers and celebrate organic food and community connection.

When I first came to Santa Cruz over seven years ago, I worked shortly for an organic farm called Molino Creek up in Davenport. That experience, working at Esalen Institute in their farm and garden (2 months previously to SC) and taking a six month Green Gardening and Composting course thru SLUG in San Francisco have been great educational training grounds that have shaped my viewing lens towards organic and non-GMO.
**CBD BOSMAIL**

From: CBD BOSMAIL  
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 7:15 PM  
To: CBD BOSMAIL  
Subject: Agenda Comments

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| 221 Arnold Avenue  
Ben Lomond, CA 95005 | 831-336-5751 |

Comments:  
PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW ANY GENETICALLY ALTERED FOOD.
I am a 5 year resident of Santa Cruz, an avid gardener, and a staunch supporter of organic farming, gardening, and conscious consumption. I believe whole-heartedly that the health of this city and nation hinges on a consciousness shift that includes the movement toward community self-reliance.

GE crops are extremely risky, with unknown outcomes that affect everyone. The decision to welcome GE plants into our local ecosystem is one that should include every member of the community.

I strongly support adding Chapter 7.31 to the County Code to establish a moratorium prohibiting the planting and production of genetically engineered crops in Santa Cruz County, and would further suggest the support of organic methods in every agricultural sector possible.

Thank you.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 7:56 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: David Perry
Address: Santa Cruz

Email: Not Supplied
Phone: Not Supplied

Item Number: 64

Comments:
As a resident of the city of Santa Cruz, I support the recommendations of the Santa Cruz County GE Subcommittee to place a moratorium on planting and growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz County.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 8:33 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Donald J. Seldeen, Ph.D.
Email: Not Supplied

Address: 701 Happy Valley Rd
Santa Cruz, CA 95065
Phone: 831-423-4605

Comments:
Dear County Supervisors,

I was pleased and relieved to learn that you voted, in principle, to adopt a Precautionary Moratorium on Genetically Engineered organisms in Santa Cruz. I wholeheartedly endorse this moratorium and support you all to pass an ordinance establishing a Precautionary Moratorium on GE organisms using the criteria recommended by your Commission on genetic engineering. Thank you for taking action on this very important local health, safety, and ultimately economic, issue.

Sincerely,
Donald J. Seldeen, Ph.D.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 9:23 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Judy Lukasiewicz
Email: jsteel@cruzio.com
Address: 701 Happy Valley Rd.
Santa Cruz, CA 95065
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
Dear Santa Cruz County Supervisors,

Thank you for acting on behalf of the citizens of this county with regard to the issue of genetically engineered organisms. I oppose the planting of GE crops and hope that our county can serve as a model for other forward thinking communities in California and elsewhere. I believe that it is imperative to establish safeguards, even though belatedly, that can serve to protect health and environment from the potentially dangerous and far-reaching impacts of GE organisms. I am relieved that the issue has come more clearly into the forefront through public education, and, as a result of your GE Commission, will ultimately lead to a long overdue ordinance calling for the general cessation of GE contamination of our food supply and our wild-lands in this county.

I completely support the addition of Chapter 7.31 to the county code. And, I urge you to continue to support the passage of a Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance prohibiting the planting and production of GE crops in Santa Cruz County.

Respectfully,
Judy Lukasiewicz
As the President of Newman’s Own Organics and as an individual I would like to show my support for the moratorium on the planting and production of genetically engineered crops in SC county. The lack of responsibility, accountability, and transparency concerning the spread of GE crops is of great concern to organic and conventional farmers, as well as to the residents of this county. This issues covered by the GE Subcomitee Report reflect the need for further research as to the effects of GE crops on humanity and our environment.

Genetic engineering may have its place at some point in the realm of medicine, however the cross contamination of crops and the spread of genetic material to weedy relatives has already shown that controls should have been in place from the start.

I'd like to think that we are capable of learning from our past mistakes. As you may recall, the effects of DDT on the peregrine falcon were only discovered after it had become virtually extinct east of the Mississippi.

I hope that the Board of Supervisors, in their wisdom sees the need to be more careful.

Sincerely, Nell Newman
Meeting Date : 6/20/2006  
Item Number : 64

Name : Glenn Kazmierski  
Email : glennkazmierski@mac.com

Address : 181 Branciforte Ridge  
Phone : (831)425-1232
Santa Cruz, CA 95065

Comments :
Dear Representative,
As a primary healthcare provider for California I want to express what I believe to be an unnecessary aspect in farming and its distribution at this time. Engineered food can be an important link to nutrition in areas of need where vital resources are lacking and a urgent necessity. I believe, in regards to nutrition, that these type of foods are below the common standards in this county and in California as a whole. I oppose measures to adopt genetically altered foods in the United States at this time. I support measures to prohibit these foods to be exploited in areas where standards for nutrition exceed the nation, such as Sant Cruz county. In regards to public health I view steps to adopt genetically altered foods to be overly aggressive and unnecessarily competitive in this 'sweet zone' of this bread basket of the world.

Please limit these bioengineered resources for the sake of nutrition and common courtesy,

Glenn Kazmierski, L.Ac.

6/20/2006
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19,2006 10:54 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Item Number : 64

Name : Vanessa Montiel

Email : Not Supplied

Address : 30 Moran Way
Santa Cruz CA 95062

Phone : Not Supplied

Comments :
"I don't want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county."
From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 11:11 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Jeff Fiorovich
Email: Jfioro@cruzio.com

Address: PO box 1333
Freedom CA 95019
Phone: 831 724-4137

Comments:
Supervisors,
Just wanted to voice my support of the precautionary moratorium on GE crops and urge you to vote in favor of this ordinance. We are a CCOF certified grower and members of Community Alliance with Family Farmers. Through CCOF we have become aware of group calling themselves the California Healthy Foods Coalition. This group, with it's feel-good name claims to support family farmers, but it obviously represents big agribusiness and the biotech industry. People have a right to make informed decisions about food choices. Why is labeling not required? The industry is afraid that their products will be rejected at the market place. From a marketing perspective a local moratorium could be an advantage to local producers. "Grown in Santa Cruz County GMO FREE" has the potential to become a great marketing tool. A recent Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau survey indicates that 76% of respondents make an effort to buy organic. Santa Cruz County residents are ready to reject this technology until it is proven safe for people and the environment.

Sincerely
Jeff Fiorovich
Crystal Bay Farm
Meetings Date: 6/20/2006  
Item Number: 64

Name: Len Beyea  
Email: lbeyea@cruzio.com

Address: 501 Windsor St  
Phone: 426-8135

Comments:
I strongly urge you to support a moratorium on genetically engineered crops within Santa Cruz County. These experimental crops are untested for health, safety or environmental impacts. Problems of crop contamination and health problems associated with some GE crops have already been experienced. While Federal and State politicians have so far failed to act, a local moratorium on GE crops is meaningful and effective in protecting local citizens and agriculture. If you would like to know more about this issue, I encourage you to read some of the research on GE crops published by WorldWatch Institute, which is very balanced and thorough. Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2006 1:02 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Rose Schweig
Email: Not Supplied
Phone: Not Supplied

Address: 116 Seabright Ave #5
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062

Comments:
I support a GE Precautionary Moratorium and I urge the Santa Cruz supervisors to adopt a GE free Santa Cruz moratorium.
Thanks, Rose Schweig

6/20/2006
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2006 5:51 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Jay Nitikman
Email: Not Supplied
Address: 230 Forest Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Phone: Not Supplied

Comments:
Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors,

I live in Santa Cruz County and I consume locally grown organic fruits and vegetables. I am a firm believer in the Precautionary Principle: if the consequences of an action are unknown, but are judged to have some potential for major or irreversible negative consequences, then it is better to avoid that action. Until Industry or the State or Federal Govt. can prevent and protect organic food from contamination by GM organisms, we need this Moratorium at the local level.

Thank you and I look forward to your affirmative vote on this matter.

Jay Nitikman

that in the absence of scientific
am an active supporter of the Community Farmers Markets

6/20/2006
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2006 6:53 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

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<td>3075 Salisbury Dr. S.C. Ca. 95065</td>
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Comments:
Thank you for your attention. I am one citizen who is opposed to untested genetically altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moritorium in SC county.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2006 7:24 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006

Name: Lynda Marin
Phone: 662-2242

Address: 440 Ben's Way
Watsonville, CA 95076
Email: Imarin@cruzio.com

Item Number: 64

Comments:
Dear Supervisors,
I firmly support the extensive research, findings and recommendations of the Santa Cruz County GE Subcommittee to place a moratorium on the planting and growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz until effective regulations, as are defined by the GE Subcommittee report, are implemented at the state level. I thank the Board for its actions so far in support of the public good in this regard. I see the right that we all have to natural (as in genetically unmodified) food as a basic human right that, along with water, air, and shelter make up the basic components of what everyone is entitled to on this planet and in any society. While federal and state governments seems to be working relentlessly to override our human and civil rights on every level, we have to take strong actions at the local level to define and claim our rights to have our most basic needs addressed. Thank you again for standing firm on this issue and protecting the citizens of Santa Cruz County in our efforts to keep our food as safe as it can be.

Best regards,
Lynda Marin
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Tuesday, June 20,2006 7:50 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 6/20/2006

Name : Laura Smith

Address : 512 Van Ness Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Email : Not Supplied
Phone : Not Supplied

Item Number : 64

Comments :
Thank you for your leadership in addressing the genetic engineering (GE) issue in Santa Cruz County. I applaud the thoroughness of your work-your solid research, findings and recommendations.

I strongly support the passage of a county ordinance that would establish effective measures to protect the environment, agriculture, and citizens of Santa Cruz County from GE contamination. My educational background is in ecology and agroecology and my career as a professional conservationist includes employment with The Nature Conservancy, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and a local native plant nursery. For over 30 years I have worked with farmers, ranchers and other landowners to conserve native plants, animals and natural communities as well as promote sustainable agricultural practices. Your research and findings illustrate the potential serious consequences of introducing GE crops without far more knowledge and without effective safeguards and controls in place.

Again, thank you for your bold leadership and scientifically-based, balanced approach to addressing this issue. I urge your support of a Precautionary Moratorium on the growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz County.

Sincerely,

Laura Smith
RE: PLEASE SUPPORT THE PRECAUTIONARY MORATORIUM ORDINANCE ON THE GROWING OF GE CROPS

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, I am a Community College Instructor, Professor of Anthropology, and resident of Santa Cruz. I am also one of the 76% of Santa Cruz residents who buys organic foods on a regular basis (See: www.sccfb.com). While I have been shocked to learn that there is currently NO infrastructure in place to regulate the growing of GE foods in Santa Cruz County, I am heartened and elated that our County Board of Supervisors has taken this issue so seriously! I am thrilled that our county is willing to set a precedent for the state of California and the United States of America. So, I'm here today to thank you in advance for unanimously adopting this unprecedented and timely GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance and its strong enforcement provisions.

Sincerely,

Debra L. Klein, Ph.D.
Anthropology Instructor
dklein@gavilan.edu
831-462-2276
**CBD BOSMAIL**

From: CBD BOSMAIL  
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 4:04 PM  
To: CBD BOSMAIL  
Subject: Agenda Comments

**Meeting Date** : 6/20/2006  
**Item Number** : 64

**Name** : Pete Shanks  
**Email** : pete@wordsontheweb.com

**Address** : 315 Lincoln St  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
**Phone** : 831 421 0373

**Comments** :
I strongly urge the Board to establish a moratorium prohibiting the planting and production of genetically modified crops in Santa Cruz County.

As your Sub-Committee's Report made clear, there is worrying evidence that such crops might be harmful to human health. There are also strong indications that GM crops would contaminate their neighbors, and thus would cause severe economic damage to our increasingly important organic farming sector. And it is surely undeniable that the current regulatory framework, at both the national and state level, is grossly inadequate.

My considerable experience with the regulation of similar technologies as applied to people has taught me that, sadly, there are those who will leap before they look. They generally have good motives -- to heal the sick or feed the world -- but their faith in technology leads them, all too often, to overlook the immediate, practical consequences of their experiments. In the case of "gene therapy" this has led to many more deaths than cures; indeed, it is possible that nobody has finally been healed, since about half of those once thought to have been treated successfully came down with leukemia. Only then did researchers discover the link between the treatment and the iatrogenic disease.

False claims of equivalency have rushed some genetically modified crops to market without proper safety checks. None of those presently sold are grown here, but many local crops are targets of those marketing these technologies. Don't let them hustle us.

This prudent and well-considered measure carefully includes conditions under which the moratorium should be lifted. Until they are in place, it should be maintained.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 3:55 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Susan Leona
Email: sleona@earthlink.net

Address: 25775 Mt Charlie Rd.
Los Gatos, CA 95033
County: Santa Cruz
Phone: 831-438-2719

Comments:
I don’t want untested Genetically Altered food. Thank you for supporting the precautionary moratorium in SC county.
Sincerely,
Susan Leona
Dear Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you so much for being proactive on the genetic engineering (GE) issue in Santa Cruz County. I whole-heartedly support the passage of a county ordinance that would put in place measures to protect human health and the environment from GE contamination of our food supply.

As a nurse/doctor/health professional, I am particularly concerned about the potential adverse effects of eating GE foods. Based on the findings of the GE Subcommittee report, I have learned that the production of GE crops may create new food allergens, the effects of which are unknown and unstudied. This raises serious concerns for me as a caretaker of our community's health and well-being.

An equally important concern of mine is the unique vulnerability of pregnant women, their growing babies, infants and children to pesticides and crop protectants that have been inserted into GE crops. There are ample reasons to worry about GE food developmental effects (in humans, farm animals, and pets) since existing GE technologies often involve changes in regulatory genes and proteins as well as hormonal impacts such as those seen in rBGH treated cows. All of these changes in the composition of food could alter Developmental trajectories and/or increase health risks of pregnant women.

I personally believe the total absence of any serious consideration of developmental impacts of GE crops is the most glaring and worrisome gap in our current understanding of GE food safety.

I urge you to support the passage of a Precautionary Moratorium on the growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis Levine
831-684-1401

P.S. 9-5-06
LETTER FROM GARDENER & ORGANIC FOOD CONSUMER

County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Suite 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
454-2200
http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/bds/ctysupvs.htm

To the SC County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing you as a resident and gardener in SC County. I want to applaud your efforts at restricting the planting of GMO crops in Santa Cruz County until they can be proven safe.

As a gardener, I want to know that the organic food that I am growing is not being contaminated by pollen from GMO plantings from neighboring crops.

GMO crops create new proteins in their cells and these new proteins can cause allergies and severe health problems in humans and animals. In one recent study, baby rats fed GMO feed did not grow properly and had malformed internal organs compared to the control group fed non-GMO feed which grew normally. Further reports just this spring have indicated that 1500 sheep in India grazing on GMO cotton plants after the cotton had been harvested, died from an adverse reaction to the toxic effects of the GMO technology. GMO technology is known by the industry itself to deal with proteins that are toxic and allergenic to humans. Contamination of corn for humans with Starlink GMO corn caused the recall of millions of dollars of corn products that were contaminated and already on the supermarket shelves.

I grow my own organic food, I have food allergies and I do not want to be the guinea pig for some special corporate interest that wants to experiment with my health in order to underwrite their profits. I have read the GMO Advisory Committee report to the board of Supervisors and it makes it clear that GMO crops have not been tested independently, THEY ARE TESTED BY THE COMPANY THAT MAKES THE PROFIT!! The USDA and the FDA are not doing their job to protect the public health. How can they when the regulatory agencies are staffed by a revolving door of workers from Monsanto and other agribusiness companies that profit from the unrestricted use of GMO technology?

It is right that Santa Cruz County set up health and safety standards to restrict this GMO technology since corporate special interests have undue influence on the regulatory agencies at the state and federal level.

Even more outrageous is the idea that pharmaceutical crops can be grown in open air trials in Santa Cruz County. My garden can be cross-pollinated by crops that have human genes or drugs spliced into them. This must be stopped at once.

Please pass the ordinance based on the well researched findings of the Advisory committee report. Keep GMO plantings out of Santa Cruz County, out of my garden and out of my food!

Thank you.
Sincerely,

[Signature]
LETTER FROM GARDENER & ORGANIC FOOD CONSUMER

County Board of Supervisors  
701 Ocean Street, Suite 500  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
454-2200  
http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/bds/ctysupvs.htm

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Please pass the ordinance based on the well researched findings of the Advisory committee report. Keep GMO plantings out of Santa Cruz County, out of my garden and out of my food!

Thank you.
Sincerely,
LETTER FROM GARDENER & ORGANIC FOOD CONSUMER

County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Suite 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
454-2200
http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/bds/ctysupvs.htm

To the SC County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing you as a resident and gardener in SC County. I want to applaud your efforts at restricting the planting of GMO crops in Santa Cruz County until they can be proven safe.

As a gardener, I want to know that the organic food that I am growing is not being contaminated by pollen from CMO plantings from neighboring crops.

CMO crops create new proteins in their cells and these new proteins can cause allergies and severe health problems in humans and animals. In one recent study, baby rats fed GMO feed did not grow properly and had malformed internal organs compared to the control group fed non-GMO feed which grew normally. Further reports just this spring have indicated that 1500 sheep in India grazing on GMO cotton plants after the cotton had been harvested, died from an adverse reaction to the toxic effects of the GMO technology. GMO technology is known by the industry itself to deal with proteins that are toxic and allergenic to humans. Contamination of corn for humans with Starlink GMO corn caused the recall of millions of dollars of corn products that were contaminated and already on the supermarket shelves.

I grow my own organic food, I have food allergies and I do not want to be the guinea pig for some special corporate interest that wants to experiment with my health in order to underwrite their profits. I have read the GMO Advisory Committee report to the board of Supervisors and it makes it clear that GMO crops have not been tested independently, THEY ARE TESTED BY THE COMPANY THAT MAKES THE PROFIT!! The USDA and the FDA are not doing their job to protect the public health. How can they when the regulatory agencies are staffed by a revolving door of workers from Monsanto and other agribusiness companies that profit from the unrestricted use of GMO technology?

It is right that Santa Cruz County set up health and safety standards to restrict this GMO technology since corporate special interests have undue influence on the regulatory agencies at the state and federal level.

Even more outrageous is the idea that pharmaceutical crops can be grown in open air trials in Santa Cruz County. My garden can be cross pollinated by crops that have human genes or drugs spliced into them. This must be stopped at once.

Please pass the ordinance based on the well researched findings of the Advisory committee report. Keep GMO plantings out of Santa Cruz County, out of my garden and out of my food!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

William G. Blue
712 Bay St. #27
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060
County Board of Supervisors  
701 Ocean Street, Suite 500  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
454-2200  
http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/bds/ctysupvs.htm

Dear Supervisor,

I strongly support the solid research, findings and recommendations of the Santa Cruz County GE Subcommittee to place a moratorium on planting and growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz until real regulations, as are defined by the GE Subcommittee report, are implemented at the state level. I thank you for your vote to approve those recommendations and for making the public interest your top priority in this serious issue.

The state and federal regulatory agencies, due to biotech industry influence, have failed to meet their obligations to protect the public. With the lack of sufficient regulation, it is essential that we enact appropriate measures at the local level. I applaud the vote of the Supervisors to approve this matter and take local control of the health and well being of our community.

As you know currently there are moves at the state level to reduce or eliminate local control in these and other matters. This illogical and disingenuous attempt to prevent local communities from protecting their environment and citizens is very disturbing especially in light of the fact that the state has little or no regulatory control of GE crops; and therefore it would result in a regulatory void for a new technology that has not been properly assessed or tested for human health and environmental impacts.

Your vote has helped Santa Cruz take a leadership role by putting in place some common sense safeguards.

Sincerely,

Susan Wallace, LCSW  -  Susan Wallace, LCSW
124 Rosea Dr.
 Aptos, CA. 95003
(831) 685-0231
Dear Supervisor,

I strongly support the solid research, findings and recommendations of the Santa Cruz County GE Subcommittee to place a moratorium on planting and growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz until real regulations, as are defined by the GE Subcommittee report, are implemented at the state level. I thank you for your vote to approve those recommendations and for making the public interest your top priority in this serious issue.

The state and federal regulatory agencies, due to biotech industry influence, have failed to meet their obligations to protect the public. With the lack of sufficient regulation, it is essential that we enact appropriate measures at the local level. I applaud the vote of the Supervisors to approve this matter and take local control of the health and well being of our community.

As you know currently there are moves at the state level to reduce or eliminate local control in these and other matters. This illogical and disingenuous attempt to prevent local communities from protecting their environment and citizens is very disturbing especially in light of the fact that the state has little or no regulatory control of GE crops; and therefore it would result in a regulatory void for a new technology that has not been properly assessed or tested for human health and environmental impacts.

Your vote has helped Santa Cruz take a leadership role by putting in place some common sense safeguards.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Filo
900 35th Ave
Santa Cruz CA 95060
475-3495
LETTER—LOCAL CONTROL

County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Suite 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
454-2200
http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/sds/ctysupvs.htm

Dear Supervisor,

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

6113 Chenault Ct.
 Aptos, CA 95003

Oct 25 20 11:44p Paul and Harriet Blue 831-684-1401 6-20-06 agenda
Testimony for Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors regarding proposed ordinance to place a precautionary moratorium on the growing of genetically modified crops on 6/20/06

Angela Flynn
246 Moore Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
831-469-4399
angelaflynn80@msn.com

Dear Supervisors,

Thank you for taking action to protect our farmers, our environment and the people of Santa Cruz County. This proposed ordinance is a wake up call to the biotech industry and the U.S. government that here in Santa Cruz we insist that thorough safety testing be done and the proper containment of crops be enforced with genetically engineered plants. Santa Cruz joins the 21 countries worldwide and numerous communities in the U.S., which have placed full or partial bans on the growing of genetically engineered crops. [1]

Modern genetic engineering began in 1973. [2] The Food and Drug Administration does not require safety testing or labeling for GE foods. The voluntary testing that has been done by the biotech industry is inadequate. The biotech industry has used attempted bribes, fired and threatened scientists, hijacked regulatory agencies, used cover-ups and rigged research. Of the 19 independent studies, most are industry-sponsored and are criticized as superficial and poorly designed. The relatively short-term animal feeding/production experiments do not contribute much to GM safety. A peer-reviewed article in Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering Reviews exposed numerous health risks of GM foods that are not being tested for, and cited serious deficiencies in both regulatory oversight and corporate testing procedures. Geneticist David Suzuki said it a little clearer: "Any politician or scientist who tells you these products are safe is either very stupid or lying. The experiments have simply not been done." [3]

The cross pollination of genetically engineered crops takes away our right to purchase and eat non-GE food and destroys the livelihood of organic farmers. The lack of safety testing must stop

6/20/2006
now. Until the biotech industry takes proper responsibility for it’s products we need to take this precautionary measure.

Thank you.

1. Switzerland, Thailand, France, Greece, Austria, Germany, Luxemburg, Poland, Algeria, Benin, Uganda, Zambia, Saudi Arabia, Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Norway, Romania, El Salvador; Hawaii, Florida, Boulder, Colorado; Mendocino, Marin and Trinity Counties, California; Arcata, California and Montville, Maine.
CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 10:37 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date: 6/20/2006
Item Number: 64

Name: Lisa J. Bunin
Email: bunin@cruzio.com

Address: PO Box 2306
Santa Cruz, CA 95063
Phone: 831-425-7121

Comments:
STATEMENT TO SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:
ADOPT THE PRECAUTIONARY MORATORIUM ORDINANCE
ON THE GROWING OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED (GE) CROPS

20 June 2006
Public Hearing

My name is Lisa Bunin. I am a member of the GE Subcommittee. I have a Ph.D. in Environmental Sociology and I work as an Environmental Policy Consultant.

I want to thank County Counsel for the thoughtful job it did in drafting the GE Precautionary Moratorium Ordinance. As a member of the GE Subcommittee, I am pleased to see how closely the text of the proposed ordinance reflects the detailed recommendations of our Subcommittee. In particular, it acknowledges that people living in our county have the right to know where GE crops are grown and that access to such information should be made easily available to everyone.

The "Summary of Findings" clearly articulates the risks to Santa Cruz's thriving agriculture sector from unwanted GE seeds and pollen drift. It underscores the inability of growers to recall GE organisms once released into the environment. As a precondition for lifting the Precautionary Moratorium, the ordinance appropriately requires that liability regulations are promulgated to protect organic and conventional farmers and gardeners from GE contamination.

I am particularly impressed by the "Enforcement" section of the ordinance, section 7.31.060, which calls for the imposition of fines and/or county jail time for violating the ordinance. These sanctions seem both appropriate and necessary to ensure that the terms of the ordinance are respected and not violated. The enforcement provisions also send a strong message to the GE industry that Santa Cruz County does not want GE crops farmed here until some critical safeguards are put into place to protect human health, the environment, and our diverse agricultural economy.

I urge you to take precautionary action and fully adopt the proposed Moratorium Ordinance on 6/20/2006.
the growing of GE crops in Santa Cruz County.

Thank you.
Dear Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

The Ecological Farming Association (Eco-Farm) is a 26 year-old Watsonville-based non-profit that is dedicated to educating farmers, policy makers and the public about practical and economically-viable techniques of ecological agriculture. Eco-Farm supports a vision for our food system where strengthening soils, protecting air and water, and encouraging diverse ecosystems and economies are all part of producing healthful food.

The Ecological Farming Association fully supports the proposed amendment to Santa Cruz County Code adding Chapter 7.31 establishing a moratorium on genetically engineered crops.

Like the GE Subcommittee that recommended the moratorium, Eco-Farm has invested considerable resources in investigating and debating genetic engineering in agriculture. Our findings are reflected in our Position Statement on Genetic Engineering in Agriculture, which can be found on our website at www.eco-farm.org. We agree with the Subcommittee that the development and release of GE crops has rapidly progressed with inadequate government oversight, insufficient health and environmental safety testing, and disregard for the contamination of non-GE crops and wildlife.

By forming the GE Subcommittee and thoroughly investigating this issue, the Board of Supervisors has become more informed about this issue than the vast majority of Americans, including many of the policy makers that have permitted that GE crops and foods be inflicted on the American public without their knowledge or consent. The support of the moratorium by the Subcommittee and the Board has shown what we have found to be true in our work - the more that people learn about GE crops and foods, the more they oppose their unfettered release into our food supply and environment.

The decisions that we make now about genetic engineering in food crops will have permanent consequences on our food production capacity. The Ecological Farming Association believes that by approving the proposed amendment, the Board will be acting in the best interest of our community, and we thank you for doing so.

Thank you for your consideration.

6/20/2006
Sincerely,

Kristin Rosenow  
Executive Director  

6/20/2006
LIST OF CALLERS REGARDING ITEM 64

Name: Phyllis Greenleaf
1555 Merrill Street, #75
Santa Cruz, CA  95062

Comment: Opposed to allowing GMO organisms. Keep them out of Santa Cruz. They will hurt human health in the long run.

Name: Valerie Lasciak
1555 Merrill Street, #139
Santa Cruz, CA  95062

Comment: Protect our ag land by voting against GMO's.

Name: Peggy Miars
1115 Mission Street
Santa Cruz, CA  95060

Comment: GE crops--support moratorium.

Name: Alice Muller
90 Grandview Street
Santa Cruz, CA  95060

Comment: Support the moratorium.

Name: Gloria Lorenzo
585 36th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA  95062

Comment: Support a moratorium to GE crops. I am a retired County worker.

Name: LeAnn Meyer

Comment: Supports moratorium. Eats organic food only. Protect our food source.
June 20, 2006

Board of Supervisors
Santa Cruz County

Re: ITEM 64 - Genetically Modified Products

Because of a conflicting appointment, I may not be able to get to the Board meeting today to address Item 54. I am therefore asking that Lois or Burt Muhly convey the following message to the Board.

I do not understand why the term “Moratorium” is being used in this item. We cannot risk having Monsanto, with the bill now pending in the State Senate, that seeks to prohibit local jurisdictions from banning the production of genetically modified products to in some way attack what is being done in our county. I urge the Board to use the word “ban”—not “moratorium”—to make it clear that the production of genetically modified products in Santa Cruz County is banned!

Respectfully,

Emily Maloney