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Study reveals signs of toxicity of GE maize approved for human consumption

added july 26, 2008 | 10 responses

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international>



"Laboratory rats, fed with a genetically engineered (GE) maize produced by Monsanto, have shown signs of toxicity in kidney and liver, according to a new study.(1) This is the first time that a GE product which has been cleared for use as food for humans and animals has shown signs of toxic effects on internal organs.

The study, published today in the journal "Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology", analysed results of safety tests submitted by Monsanto to the European Commission when the company was seeking authorisation to market its GE Maize variety MON863 in the EU. (2)

The data shows that MON863 has significant health risks associated with it; nonetheless, the European Commission granted licences to market the maize for consumption by both humans and animals. (3)

The incriminating evidence was obtained by Greenpeace following a court case (4), and passed on for evaluation by a team of experts headed by Professor Gilles Eric Séralini, a governmental expert in genetic engineering technology from the University of Caen. (5)

In a joint press conference with Greenpeace at Berlin, Professor Séralini said, "Monsanto's analyses do not stand up to rigorous scrutiny – to begin with, their statistical protocols are highly questionable. Worse, the company failed to run a sufficient analysis of the differences in animal weight. Crucial data from urine tests were concealed in the company's own publications."

Greenpeace is demanding the complete and immediate withdrawal of Monsanto's MON 863 maize from the global market and is calling upon governments to undertake an urgent reassessment of all other authorised GE products and a strict review of current testing methods.

"This is the final nail in the coffin for the credibility of the current authorisation system for GE products. Once it's known that a system designed to protect human and animal health has approved a high-risk product despite clear evidence of its dangers, we need to start 'strip-searching' all GE products on the market, and immediately abort this flawed approval procedure," said Christophe Then, Genetic Engineer campaigner, Greenpeace International.

The data in question has been the subject of fierce debate since 2003, when significant changes were identified in the blood of tested animals fed on MON863. MON863 was approved by the European Commission, in spite of opposition by a majority of EU member states, who raised concerns over the safety of the maize. Professor Séralini's analysis now scientifically confirms these concerns. As the study states, "with the present data, it cannot be concluded that GM corn MON863 is a safe product." And yet, MON863 has been authorised for markets in Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Mexico, the Phillipines, and USA, besides the EU.

"This is an international emergency alert, requiring a global response," concluded Then, "Only a complete withdrawal from all markets will curtail the possible damage".

What are the chances we have already eaten this corn? I'd say pretty good, even though consumers aren't allowed to know if they are eating it. Don't you just love knowing you may be eating food produced by the same company that made PCBs and Agent Orange? MMM MMM good.

 **JanforGore**
5 days ago

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JanforGore
added this

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Thanks for posting this Jan. Great information - exposure.



VoyagerFilms
5 days ago

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Jan your the reason I started my new art series on the Liberty Gardens trying to bring them back and the American farmer if that is at all possible. Power to the Environment and the People!!



amirct3
4 days ago

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That's great. And yes, let's bring back the American farmer, the backbone of America, and let them plant naturally as nature intended!



JanforGore
4 days ago

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kinda strange... googling MON863 gives lots of hits, including things like this...

The protein expressed by E. coli was assessed and found to be physicochemically and functionally equivalent to that expressed in plant tissue. The bacteria expression platform was used since a sufficient amount of the protein could not be purified from plant tissue. In the acute gavage study, the No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) was found to exceed 3200 mg/kg the maximum dose achievable. At that level, no mortality or grossly observable adverse effects were noted.

The NOAEL was considered to be four orders of magnitude (5.8×10^4) times greater than the expected human intake of Cry3Bb1 protein from MON 863 maize. The NOAEL was 1000 times greater than the expected livestock dietary intake of Cry3Bb1 protein from MON 863 maize.

The sequence of amino acids making Cry3Bb1 protein was compared to that of known toxins. There was no sequence homology noted with toxins. As well, there were no structural similarities noted between Cry3Bb1 and known toxins.

These factors indicated that Cry3Bb1 had a low probability to exhibit toxicity to humans or livestock consuming MON 863 maize or products derived from it.



plusaf
4 days ago

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Yeah, not surprised.

Plusaf, thanks for the invite. Also, do you think that info was posted by Monsanto? (probably)

Greedy disgusting pricks.



onechance
3 days ago

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Why can't we use this fake corn for ethanol and eat the real stuff? Plus, I thought that was another one of those UFO crop circles at first. Interesting piece.



julsie6789
3 days ago

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1 response to this

This is why organizations like Natural Solutions Foundation go to Codex Alimentaries meetings in Switzerland every year.... with dedicated Doctors to try to educate and organize the delegates at Codex to stand up to the Monsanto and GE GMO peddlers and all the US sponsored purveyors of fine poisons for human consumption. Tell everybody who cares to go to the Natural Solutions Foundation website and find out how to help prevent this commercial curse from it's intended controll of our world food supply by 2010. It sure works for their depopulation agenda, but would be nice to know what poisons they are putting into the food supply so we can choose whether we want to get sick and die young, or live to a healthier old age on real food.



ninja_tiger
2 days ago

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1 response to this

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