

DO WE HAVE TO SPELL IT OUT?



September 16th to October 16th 2014

Groups and individuals all over the UK this autumn are spelling out GMO OMG! to raise awareness of genetic modification in food.

We want to see shops shout it in their windows, growers compose it with compost, bakers say it with flour - anyone anywhere spell it out with clothing or their own bodies...

You can take part...

See our 7-step 'how-to' guide at wholefoodaction.org.uk and post your photos on the GMO OMG! event at www.facebook.com/wholefoodaction

We want Food Sovereignty, not GM Food

The most widely grown GM crops are patented products of chemical corporations, modified to be used with their own weedkillers by inserting DNA from other species. Locking farmers in to buying seeds and chemicals (and growing for export), they are high-cost, increase dependency and empower corporations not farmers.

They also intensify many existing problems of industrial agriculture, from concentrating land ownership by pushing out independent farmers, to promoting monocultures and increasing chemical spraying, which decreases soil health, and reduces diversity of seeds, plants and wildlife.

By contrast, a food sovereignty approach utilises local knowledge, ecological methods and diverse seeds developed over generations, and so is more equitable, reliable and nutritious. This approach needs to be supported by changes in policy, research and funding to safeguard future food for all.

There has been public rejection of GM food since the 1990's. It has failed to deliver higher yields, and evidence of social, ecological and health damage has increased, but the industry is still pushing for new markets. GM has hijacked the development of food and agriculture for two decades - it's time to refocus on the just and sustainable solutions we need.

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We want food that is known to be safe to eat.

We don't want GMO's!

We want farming that is good for the environment.

We don't want GMO's!

We want a fundamental shift, away from corporate control, towards a more people-centred approach:

The movement for Food Sovereignty calls for the right of people not just to have access to food, but control of their food system.

Food Sovereignty builds knowledge and skills that conserve and develop local & ecological food production, and rejects GMOs.



What can you do?

If you want to protect GM-free food and farming, there are many ways to direct your consumer-power and join up with other people also working for a safe, fair and sustainable food system:

Whole Food Action - there are hundreds of independent wholefood shops around the country, specialising in products from brands with GM-free policies. Find your nearest shop and more info on food sovereignty at www.wholefoodaction.org.uk

Sign the petition against the growing of GM crops in the UK -

This campaign was prompted by news of the UK government backing a proposal in the EU that could fast-track the growing of GM crops in the UK. Follow the petition link under 'Take Action' at www.wholefoodaction.org.uk

Oppose TTIP - this new trade deal being negotiated between corporate interests in the US and EU is an assault on social and environmental protections in general, and aims to lower food standards in Europe making it easier for the GM industry to expand. See www.nottip.org.uk

GM Freeze - sign up for free information and action alerts, and find out more about GM animal feed, GM cooking oil used in takeaways and restaurants, and the evidence against glyphosate at www.gmfreeze.org

Soil Association - "GM crops drive out and destroy the farming systems that international scientists agree we need to combat world hunger" See www.soilassociation.org/gm/gmbattle and find out more about organic food.

Grow/Pick your own! with others! - get growing experience through WWOOF or a CSA, visit a permaculture project, join an Abundance project - follow the 'Hands On' links under 'Take Action', www.wholefoodaction.org.uk

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