

Say No to GMOs!!!



Genetically Engineered Foods Pose Higher Risk for Children

Americans Eat Genetically Modified (GM) Food Everyday!

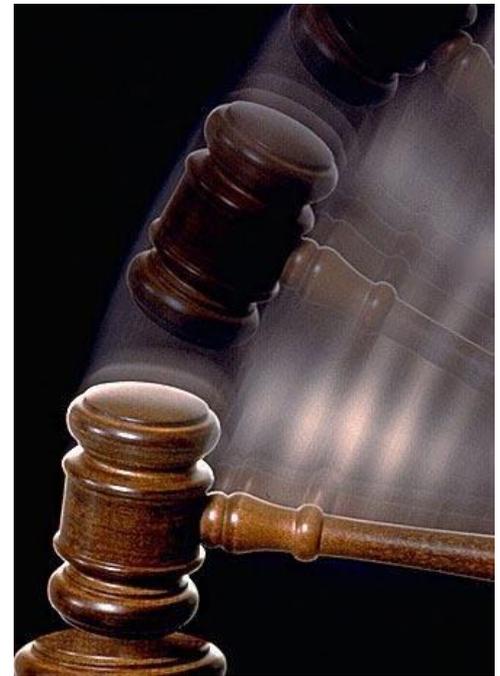
- Although GM tomatoes have been taken off the market, millions of acres of soy, corn, canola, and cotton have had foreign genes inserted into their DNA.

- The new genes allow the crops to survive applications of herbicides, create their own pesticide, or both



- While there are only a handful of published animal safety studies, those conducted by the biotech industry are often dismissed by critics as superficial , necessarily biased, and designed to avoid finding problems.

- Scientists who voice their criticisms or discover incriminating evidence have been threatened, stripped of responsibilities, denied funding or tenure, or fired



- For example, a UK government-funded study demonstrated that young rats fed a GM potatoes developed potentially pre-cancerous cell growth, damaged immune systems, partial atrophy of the liver, and suffered from inhibited development of their brains, livers and testicles.

- When the lead scientist went public with his concerns, he was promptly fired from his job after 35 years and silenced with threats of a lawsuit.

Young, fast-developing bodies are influenced most



- Children's bodies develop at a fast pace and are more likely to be influenced and show the effects of genetically modified (GM) foods

- Independent scientists used young adolescent rats in their GM feeding studies. The rats showed significant health damage after only 10 days, including damaged immune systems and digestive function, smaller brains, livers, and testicles, partial atrophy of the liver, and potentially pre-cancerous cell growth in the intestines.



Scientists at the FDA who reviewed the study agreed that the results did not provide a “demonstration of reasonable certainty of no harm.”

Agency scientists warned that GM foods in general might create **unpredicted allergies, toxins, antibiotic resistant diseases, and nutritional problems**

Other Research Shows

- ✓ Rats fed GM corn had problems with blood cell formation
- ✓ Rats fed GM soy had problems with liver cell formation
- ✓ Livers of the rats fed GM canola were heavier
- ✓ Pigs fed GM corn on at least 25 Midwest farms developed false pregnancies or sterility
- ✓ Cows fed GM corn in Germany died mysteriously
- ✓ Twice the number of chickens died when fed GM corn compared to those fed natural corn



Children are More Susceptible to Allergies



- Children are three to four times more prone to allergies than adults.
- Infants are at greatest risk--they have the highest incidence of reactions, especially to new allergens encountered in the diet.

•Even tiny amounts of allergens can sometimes cause reactions in children.

•Breast fed infants can be exposed via the mother's diet, and fetuses may possibly be exposed in the womb.

•Any baby food containing GM products could lead to a dramatic rise in allergies.

•GM corn is particularly problematic for children, as they generally have a higher percentage of corn in their diet. Further, allergic children often rely on corn protein. Mothers using cornstarch as a talc substitute on their children's skin might also inadvertently expose them via inhalation.

<http://www.kidsdirect.net/BD/infants/eat-sldfoods.htm>

<http://kylie.wordpress.com/food-allergies/>



Children are More Susceptible to Problems With Milk



Milk and dairy products from cows treated with the genetically engineered bovine growth hormone (rbGH) contain an increased amount of the hormone IGF-1, which is one of the highest risk factors associated with breast and prostate cancer.

- The Council on Scientific Affairs of the American Medical Association called for more studies to determine if ingesting higher than normal concentrations of [IGF-1] is safe for children, adolescents, and adults.
- Sam Epstein, M.D., Chairman of the Cancer Prevention Coalition and author of eight books, wrote, "rbGH and its digested products could be absorbed from milk into blood, particularly in infants, and produce hormonal and allergic effects."
- He described how "cell-stimulating growth factors . . . could induce premature growth and breast stimulation in infants, and possibly promote breast cancer in adults." Dr. Epstein pointed out that the hormones in cows could promote the production of "steroids and adrenaline-type stressor chemicals . . . likely to contaminate milk and may be harmful, particularly to infants and young children."

Children are More Susceptible to Nutritional Problems



- A 2002 report by the UK's Royal Society said that genetic modification "could lead to unpredicted harmful changes in the nutritional state of foods." They therefore recommended that potential health effects of GM foods be rigorously researched before being fed to pregnant or breast-feeding women, elderly people, those suffering from chronic disease, and babies.
- Likewise, according to former minister Meacher, unexpected changes in estrogen levels in GM soy used in infant formula "might affect sexual development in children," and "even small nutritional changes could cause bowel obstruction."

Children are in Danger from Antibiotic Resistant Diseases



- Children prone to ear and other infections are at risk of facing antibiotic resistant strains of bacteria, due to the use of antibiotic resistant genes in GM food.



- The British Medical Association cited this as one reason why they called for a moratorium of GM foods.

Schools Can Help Protect Children



- Our entire population is being fed GM foods daily, WITHOUT knowing the impact of these foods on our health, our behavior, or our children.

- Thousands of schools around the world, particularly in Europe, have decided not to let their kids be used as guinea pigs. They have banned GM foods.

- With the epidemic of obesity and diabetes and with the results in some schools showing that food influences student behavior, parents and schools are waking up to the critical role that diet plays.

- When making changes in what kids eat, removing genetically modified foods should be a priority.



<http://www.sweetwheat.com/showpage.php?cat=non-gmo&osCsid=36395f57dc2241b5eaafec9267074d9>

<http://www.liferesearchuniversal.com/wonderfoods.html>

Resources

<http://www.saynotogmos.org/>

http://www.allergykids.com/index.php?id=3&page=Defining_Food_Allergies

http://www.helpguide.org/life/organic_foods_pesticides_gmo.htm