

genetiX snowball is calling for

A five year moratorium on the deliberate release of GM plants in Britain except for government sponsored ecological health and safety tests (in enclosed systems) and the removal and safe destruction of all GM crops already existing.

The campaign is asking for reasonable and safe nonviolent action in order to achieve a very reasonable request of caution, in the face of unknown dangers.

When this has been met, the genetiX snowball will cease.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

Send off for the free genetiX snowball action pack, containing all you need to know to take part in the genetiX snowball

The first genetiX snowball action happened on July 4th, and there-after the third and first weekend of every month.

The genetiX snowball pack and other information can be obtained from: genetiX snowball, One World Centre, 6 Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS. Tel: 0161 834 0295. Fax: 0161 834 8187.

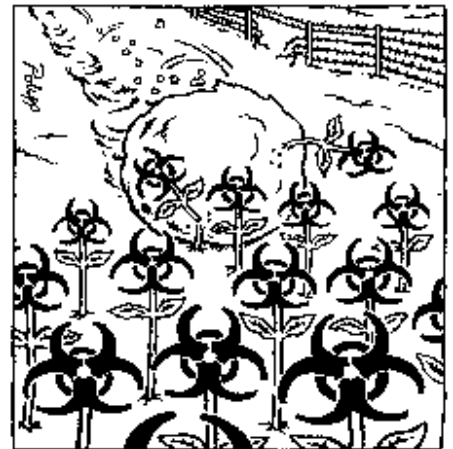
Email: genetixsnowball@orangenet.co.uk
Internet: <http://www.gn.apc.org/pmhp/gs/>

The pack is free but donations of stamps and money are very welcome. Cheques payable to "genetiX snowball".

LOCAL CONTACT:

genetiX snowball

The greatest mistake was made by those who did nothing because they could only do a little



***A campaign of
nonviolent civil
responsibility***

A snowball rolling down a hill gathers momentum and gets bigger as it travels. genetiX snowball will spread open resistance to the unsafe, unwanted and unnecessary practice of genetic modification of crops and food in the same way. This will happen by encouraging groups and individuals to nonviolently, accountably and safely PULL UP A SMALL NUMBER OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS and convince others to DO THE SAME.

This idea is particularly appropriate to GM crops, as only the collective nonviolent action of a large number of people will have enough influence to put on the brakes of this runaway experiment.

When the democratic process ceases to protect our health and the environment it is necessary for citizens to take reasonable nonviolent action to affect change within that democratic process. In the face of all responsibility being waived by those in a position to wield it, the responsibility falls on us.

Genetic Modification inserts genes from one species to another in ways that

would never occur naturally. The Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) produced are being released into the environment and the food chain at an alarming rate. Without any public consultation, some of our food already contains GM soya, maize, tomatoes, yeast and bacteria. There is widespread distrust, mounting scientific evidence against, and numerous ethical concerns about this technology, because:

- It is flawed science and the theories on which GM is based are inadequate and imprecise. We simply don't understand enough to know exactly what it may do.
- It is unsafe and potential hazards include new toxins and allergens in food, more virulent diseases, antibiotic resistant bacteria, 'superweeds' and 'super-bugs', loss of crop biodiversity and disruption of delicate ecological balances.
- It is unnecessary and the modifications are primarily profit driven. Alternative solutions to the perceived need for GMOs, such as better access to food and organic farming are not being properly explored.

GM crops have been released at over 300 sites around the country. Despite supposed safety regulations, there is proof that some have already started to 'escape'. This poses unacceptable and irreversible risks of cross contamination and genetic pollution to ourselves and the environment.

At the moment there are no commercially grown GM crops in Britain. By safely pulling up small numbers of GM plants and creating a groundswell of public opinion against GM crops, we can influence government policy.

Our accountable and nonviolent actions will highlight our concerns and simultaneously check that others agree with us. If we do not get a response to our invitation to join the snowball it will stop. This is our democracy check.

English Nature, the RSPB, Prince Charles and numerous other respected bodies, scientists and prominent figures have called for a moratorium on the commercial release of GM plants in the UK until safety tests are completed.

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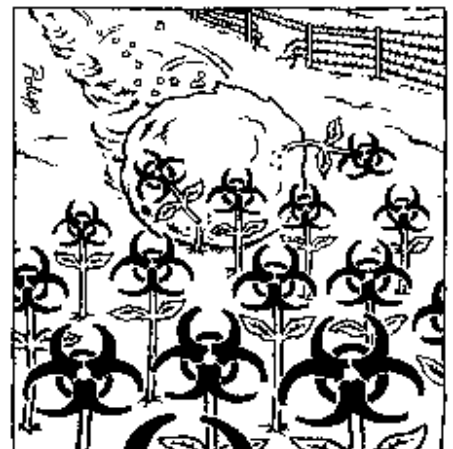
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