

Open e-mail

2 februari 2009

Geachte Leden van de Eerste Kamer, Leden van de commissies Landbouw en VROM en andere belangstellenden,

Na het debat aangehoord te hebben via [www.eerstekamer.nl](http://www.eerstekamer.nl) gehouden tijdens de vergadering op 27 januari jl. in de Eerste Kamer over moderne biotechnologie en de landbouw, kan ik alleen maar concluderen, -na mij in de materie te hebben verdiept sinds 1996-, dat adequate kennis bij een aantal sprekers over de geschiedenis en kennis omtrent de nieuwste berichten over gentech jammerlijk ontbreekt . En toch wordt u geacht hier uiteindelijk een motie over aan te nemen of te verwerpen, of u nu ter zake kundig bent of niet!

Daarom heb ik de vrijheid genomen, een aantal nuchtere feiten, -geen emotionele verhandelingen of betogen- aan u door te geven. Zie daarvoor de bijlage onderaan deze e-mail.

De Gentechvrije Burgers verzoeken u, de Eerste Kamer en (in zake punt 2 en 3 tevens de Tweede Kamer en de ministers van Landbouw en van VROM);

1. Om de motie betreffende biotechnologie in de landbouw, die gepland is voor dinsdag 3 februari a.s. op te schorten;
2. Om niet toe te laten, dat cisgenese en transgenese worden toegepast in de landbouw:
3. Om zich tot het uiterste in te spannen, er voor te zorgen, dat Nederland een gentechvrije zone zal blijven. De EU geeft hiervoor tegenwoordig mogelijkheden aan.

Hoogachtend,

Miep Bos, woordvoester van De Gentechvrije Burgers, Europees Consumentenplatform  
Lelystad

[www.gentechvrij.nl](http://www.gentechvrij.nl)  
[www.nanotechvrij.nl](http://www.nanotechvrij.nl)  
[www.wolmanzouten.nl](http://www.wolmanzouten.nl)

Bijlagen

### **Gouden rijst.**

De eerste generatie Gouden rijst werd bijna 10 jaar geleden ontwikkeld. Gouden rijst is genetisch gemanipuleerd zodat het Beta-caroteen voortbrengt, dat het menselijk lichaam omzet in vitamine A. Deze rijst variëteit wordt verondersteld vitamine-A-gebrek in de ontwikkelingslanden te bestrijden. Huidig onderzoek heeft laten zien dat de meeste vragen over de kwaliteit en veiligheid van dit product zelfs vandaag de dag nog niet zijn beantwoord.

Zelfs onbeduidende technische gegevens over hoe hoog het Beta-caroteengehalte is dat in de rijst achterblijft nadat het is opgeslagen en gekookt zijn niet gepubliceerd. Alhoewel publicatie van deze gegevens verschillende jaren worden verwacht, zijn er geen gegevens aan het publiek ter beschikking gesteld. Maar zulke resultaten zijn zeer relevant om de technische kwaliteit van gentech rijst te beoordelen. Bij voorbeeld, Beta-caroteen kan relatief snel achteruit gaan gedurende de opslag. Zelfs als er direct om gevraagd wordt, weigeren de projectmanagers meer details prijs te geven. Dit gebrek aan doorzichtigheid trekt de gehele authenticiteit van het project in twijfel.

*The first generation of Golden Rice was developed nearly 10 years ago. Golden Rice is genetically modified so that it generates carotenoids which the human body synthesizes into vitamin A. This variety of rice is supposed to combat vitamin A deficiency in developing countries. Current research has shown that most questions about the quality and safety of this product are unanswered even today.*

*Even trivial technical data on how much carotenoid content remains in the rice after it has been stored and cooked have not been published. Although publication of this data has been expected for several years, no findings have been made available to the public. However, such findings are highly relevant for assessing the technical quality of genetically modified rice. For example, carotenoids can degrade relatively quickly during storage. Even if asked directly, the project managers refuse to reveal more details. This lack of transparency calls the entire authenticity of the project into question. KNIP*

**Christoph Then, [www.scouting-biotechnology.net](http://www.scouting-biotechnology.net), January 2009**

Hele artikel:

[http://www.foodwatch.de/foodwatch/content/e6380/e23456/e23458/GoldenRice\\_english\\_final\\_ger.pdf](http://www.foodwatch.de/foodwatch/content/e6380/e23456/e23458/GoldenRice_english_final_ger.pdf)

**Glyfosaat** niet zo onschuldig; 6 januari 2009. Belangrijk onderzoek: Formulations Induce Apoptosis and Necrosis in Human Umbilical, Embryonic, and Placental Cells naar de formulering (is de totale herbicide "Roundup" nl. de werkzame stof glyfosaat en fabrieksgeheime stoffen samen) van Roundup. " **Formulering zorgt voor celdood en dood van levende cellen of weefsels in menselijke cellen van de navelstreng, -cellen van de embryo en -cellen van de moederkoek**" onderzoek door Nora Benachour, Gilles-Eric Séralini, net uitgebracht.

<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/tx800218n>

**Een vaak gehoorde stelling: 'Cisgenese is een onschuldige vorm van genetische manipulatie die ook in de biologische landbouw thuishoort.' In werkelijkheid is cisgenese, waarbij ook - maar vaak niet uitsluitend - van planteigen materiaal gebruik gemaakt wordt evenzeer een lokale ingreep in het genoom als transgenese, waarbij men de oneindig complex verweven samenhangen in het organisme negeert. Het is evenzeer een inherent schadelijke praktijk die in geen enkele vorm van landbouw thuishoort.**

[Fragment uit het geweldige stuk, voorgelezen bij de hoorzitting bij het ministerie van VROM van 8 december 2008 betr. cisgene aardappelproefvelden vlakbij natuurgebieden \(voor iedereen te begrijpen\), dat gaat over gentech gewassen getiteld: Plantenveredeling in het belang van de gemeenschap van Jan Storms, uit Amsterdam <http://www.gentechvrij.nl/plaatjesgen/indemedia/veredeling%20in%20het%20belang%20van%20de%20gemeenschap01a.pdf>](#)

witbrief opgesteld voor Stichting Ekopark door **storms(ico)**, wetenschappelijk adviesbureau voor intelligente cultuurontwikkeling webstek: [www.storms.org](http://www.storms.org) email: [ico@storms.org](mailto:ico@storms.org)

**Wetenschappers waarschuwen tegen gentech en zij hebben gelijk, 90 wetenschappelijke onderzoeken naar de schadelijkheid van gentech voor de gezondheid van mens en dier en het milieu.**

<http://www.bangmfood.org/images/stories/sciev.pdf>

**Hongarije** wil haar ban op gentech gewassen handhaven, ondanks dat de EC vraagt daar van af te zien.

*Hungary to defy European Commission call to scrap ban on GMO crops* By Hungary Around the Clock <http://www.realdeal.hu/20090130/hungary-to-defy-european-commission-call-to-scrap-ban-on-gmo-crops> Hungary will keep its ban on GMO (genetically modified organisms) maize imports and the planting of GMO seeds, Agriculture Ministry undersecretary Zoltán Gőgös announced. The European Commission recently called on Hungary to entirely lift its GMO ban.

Een greep uit GM WATCH MONTHLY REVIEW No. 65

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### **USA Sojaboeren keren hun rug toe naar gentech soja/ FARMERS TURNING THEIR BACKS ON GM**

*Here are 2 recent reports of U.S. soybean farmers turning their backs on GM soy. These follow on from a similar report from Brazil. See also the item below on the shrinking Bt cotton acreage in the U.S. which notes that the cost of Bt cotton now exceeds the cost of conventional pest control.*

+ FARMERS TURNING THEIR BACK ON GM SOY IN U.S.

*"We've been hearing about farmers returning to conventional soybean varieties in 2009 to lower input costs and take advantage of overseas demand for non-GMO beans," says Dr David Wright, Director of Research for the North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP).*

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/SoybeanVarieties/soybeans/prweb1833374.htm>

### **Gentechvrije soja gezocht/+ NON-GM SOYBEANS SOUGHT**

*This article notes that some U.S. producers are interested in getting hold of non-GM soybeans not just because of the high prices for GM but because they would also like to replant seed from their soybean crop, and some are hoping to find a buyer willing to pay a premium for non-GM soybeans.*

[http://www.seedtoday.com/articles/The\\_Search\\_for\\_Non\\_GM\\_Soybeans-69327.html](http://www.seedtoday.com/articles/The_Search_for_Non_GM_Soybeans-69327.html)

### **Bt katoen duurder/+ BT COTTON MORE EXPENSIVE**

*Delta Farm Press reports that U.S. cotton insect losses in 2008 were up from 2007 and that the cost of Bt cotton exceeded the cost of foliar application in 2008. Bt cotton acreage decreased for the second straight year in 2008, although this is more reflective of an overall decline in cotton acreage.*

<http://deltafarmpress.com/cotton/beltwide-insects-0123/>

**Pogingen om gentech tarwe te promoten, stranden, zelfs Monsanto geeft toe dat gentechvrije tarwe de toekomst heeft./+ ATTEMPTS TO PUSH GM WHEAT**  
*The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) has issued a statement expressing strong support for developing GM wheat. **However, even Monsanto admits the future is non-GM for wheat.***

[http://www.grassrootsnetroots.org/articles/article\\_16689.cfm](http://www.grassrootsnetroots.org/articles/article_16689.cfm)

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

<http://www.bangmfood.org/quotes/24-quotes/32-non-gm-biotechnology-is-the-future>

**Verwijder het door de EU in de ban gedane glufosinaat-ammonium (wordt gebruikt bij gentech gewassen) onmiddellijk van de markt/+ REMOVE GLUFOSINATE FROM MARKET IMMEDIATELY!**

*European Parliament members have voted to ban pesticides classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction. Permits for 22 substances, among them Bayer's glufosinate, a pesticide used on many GM crops, will not be renewed. But the Coalition Against Bayer Dangers has asked for glufosinate to be taken off the market immediately.*

<http://sprayadvisory.blog.ca/2009/01/19/take-glufosinate-bayer-s-herbicide-off-the-market-immediately-and-more-5405713/>

**Bt Brinjal ( Bt aubergine) niet veilig/+ BT BRINJAL NOT SAFE**

*As the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), India's regulatory body for GE crops and foods, meets to look at the results of the two-year large scale trials of Bt Brinjal across the country, new analyses of the data cast doubts on the safety of the GM crop.*

*Prof Gilles-Eric Seralini of CRIIGEN analysed Mahyco's Bt brinjal biosafety data and points out that Bt brinjal had not been properly tested from the safety and environmental point of view, observing that in feeding trials significant differences were noted in animals fed with Bt brinjal compared to those fed non-Bt controls. He concludes, "Clear significant differences were seen that raise food safety concerns and warrant further investigation. The GM Bt brinjal cannot be considered as safe as its non GM counterpart. Indeed, it should be considered as unsuitable for human and animal consumption."*

*Full study at*

[http://www.criigen.org/images/stories/Actualites/ActusOGM/btbrinjal-ges\\_%200109.pdf](http://www.criigen.org/images/stories/Actualites/ActusOGM/btbrinjal-ges_%200109.pdf)

**De USA bereidt zich voor om buitenlandse geïmporteerde gentechvoeding te blokkeren./+ US PREPARES TO BLOCK INFLUX OF GM FOODS**

*After a decade of exporting its GM crops all over the world, the US is preparing to block foreign GM foods from entering the country - if they are deemed to threaten its agriculture, environment or citizens' health. The warning was given to the US Department of Agriculture, which polices agricultural imports, by its own auditor, the Office of Inspector General (OIG): "Unless international developments in transgenic plants and animals are closely monitored, USDA could be unaware of potential threats that particular new transgenic plants or animals might pose to the nation's food supply."*

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20126923.300-us-prepares-to-block-influx-of-gm-food.html>

**Onbedoelde effecten van gentech/+ NONTARGET EFFECTS OF GM**

*Article with scientific examples:*

*Some examples:*

*canola\_004: Pigs fed GM canola had reduced daily weight gain and the canola had higher concentrations of undesirable substances.*

*maize\_002: Atlantic salmon fed Bt corn had altered enzyme activity in liver and intestine as well as altered proportions and numbers of different white blood cells.*

*pea\_001: Mice fed with transgenic weevil-resistant peas showed immune reaction while pigs and chickens had reduced starch digestion.*

*potato\_002: Inulin-storing potatoes had higher alkaloid content and pigs fed on them had reduced daily weight gain.*

*soybean\_002: Diet containing glyphosate-resistant soybeans affected the nuclei of liver cells in mice.*

[http://statelineobserver.com/component/option.com\\_mojolItemid,90/p,3760/](http://statelineobserver.com/component/option.com_mojolItemid,90/p,3760/)

### **Besmette rijst gevonden in India/+ CONTAMINATED RICE FOUND IN INDIA**

*Gene Campaign alleges that GM Bt rice belonging to the Mahyco company has contaminated rice in Jharkhand, India. GM rice carrying the Bt gene was planted by Mahyco company in field trials violated rules prescribed by the government for such testing, Gene Campaign said.*

*Suman Sahai, convenor of Gene Campaign, says, "even the fact that GM rice could get out of their trial site is damning for Mahyco. Nor is it clear if the GM rice introduced by Mahyco is safe for human consumption. It isn't known how far it has spread but the contamination has surely begun." This violation, she adds, is all the more serious because India is the centre of origin of rice with immense genetic diversity.*

<http://www.indopia.in/India-usa-uk-news/latest-news/482547/Business/4/20/4>

<http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20090202&fname=ZGM+Rice&sid=1>

### **India; boeren en experts vragen om een moratorium/+ INDIA: FARMERS AND EXPERTS CALL FOR MORATORIUM**

*Farmers and experts have called for a moratorium on GM crops in the country in view of established health and environmental hazards. Charging the key regulatory body of "compromising" its brief of securing public health and safety in the context of GM crops, they have called for a stop on the introduction of both GM brinjal and GM rice.*

*Criticizing the lack of appropriate regulations and the haste to release GM crops in the environment, the founder-director of the Hyderabad-based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology and the Supreme Court's nominee in the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), Dr Pushpa M Bhargava said that the GEAC was not sufficiently enabled to oversee/regulate approvals and ensure health and environmental safety.*

[http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Markets/Commodities/Farmers\\_and\\_experts\\_called\\_for\\_moratorium\\_on\\_GM\\_crops/articleshow/4024347.cms](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Markets/Commodities/Farmers_and_experts_called_for_moratorium_on_GM_crops/articleshow/4024347.cms)

### **India; dokters roepen op tot een moratorium van gentech gewassen en voedsel/+ INDIA: DOCTORS CALLS FOR MORATORIUM ON GM CROPS AND FOODS**

<http://www.gmwatch.eu/archives/50-Doctors-call-for-moratorium-on-GM-crops.html>

## **Hoe gemeenschappen gentech besmetting aanpakken./+ HOW COMMUNITIES ARE TACKLING GM CONTAMINATION**

*An interesting article in Seedling (from GRAIN) discusses the methods communities around the world are using to get rid of GM contamination from their crops. In Mexico, people found that deformed maize plants had high levels of contamination, so they have begun to weed them out.*

*In the Philippines, people are "complaining that they have lost practically all the traditional maize varieties in the province due to contamination by hybrid and GM maize. They also fear for their health, as there have been incidents of children being taken to hospital for incessant vomiting after accidentally eating GM maize. There was also a report of a farmer's cow that became sick and eventually died after being fed with Bt maize."*

<http://www.grain.org/seedling/?id=575>

*GMWatch comment: We've been contacted by people complaining of severe symptoms after eating corn/maize products over the past 5-6 years when they have not had problems previously with this food. They ask if it's anything to do with the introduction of GM maize. We tell them there is no way of knowing, as GM scientists didn't bother to find out before releasing GM maize onto world markets.*

## **NAFTA Commissie krijgt gentech mais klacht/+ NAFTA COMMISSION GETS GM CORN COMPLAINT**

*Mexican farm and environmental groups have filed a complaint with the environmental commission of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) over the importing and planting of GM corn seeds in the northern state of Chihuahua. Currently, the planting of GM corn is illegal in Mexico.*

<http://www.newspapertree.com/news/3381-nafta-commission-gets-gm-corn-complaint>

## **Zuid-Amerika; besmetting van honing met gentech pollen/+ GM CONTAMINATION OF HONEY - FULL ARTICLE**

*A German magazine recently had a range of honeys tested and found 11 out of 24 honeys were contaminated with GM pollen & mainly those from South America. We previously posted a summary in English of the article but now we have a translation (thanks to our GMWatch translators) of the full piece:*

[http://www.organicconsumers.org/articles/article\\_16619.cfm](http://www.organicconsumers.org/articles/article_16619.cfm)