

stanleybecker

conventional seeds that are offered in sealed paper packets at garden centers seem to be treated with insecticides - why?? - this is merely another way to insert chemical poisons into the food chain - the commercialization of humanity by pathologically obsessed Corporates and their wealth mongering shareholders transforms what you eat into an alchemical mix of poisonous brew - for what reason? - not for the benefit of any life form - tainting everything with poisonous additives is the earmark of mental deficiency and Mankind has to reconsider this anti life practice

Posted On 01/11/2020

Guillermou

Yes STAN, drugs and GM crops are true crimes against humanity and the health of the planet. The reality is that genetically engineered foods are not cheaper, or healthier, or solve the great problems of humanity. The transgenics have been designed exclusively with the objective of increasing profits and control of the world food market by the transnational agrochemical industry, which controls the large global business of chemical herbicides and pesticides, through large monopolies.

Genetically engineered crops are designed to be herbicide tolerant, sold in a "package" that requires the use of certain herbicides, ruining environmentally friendly peasants, and thereby ensuring a lucrative business to the industry, while continuing to poison the environment and our health.

Transgenic seeds are a disaster for humanity, with the great loss of biodiversity by affecting beneficial species, such as insects that transport pollen from one plant to another, to insects that are a natural way of controlling them, as well as soil organisms that are fundamental in a biodynamic agriculture.

Consumers be guinea pigs of this incredible experiment, which is ruining the planet. Consumers, we can demand a label that tells us which products contain transgenic ingredients. refusing to buy food that comes from genetically engineered crops. Support, disseminate and collaborate with social movements for the control of their traditional seeds. We need a biodynamic agriculture that provides healthy and sufficient food, respecting the health of people and the biodiversity of the planet.

Posted On 01/11/2020

juststeve

Stan & Gui, great points. Artificial Foods crated for CAFO's. Both animal & human CAFO's. Never nourishing or nutritional. No wonder Oliver Twist asked for another bowl please.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

stan - Why? Because the way most commercial seed is grown makes it vulnerable to mold and fungus and because most people garden with chemicals. So it gets treated so that it can survive until it goes in the ground and so it can survive the onslaughts of dead, non-organic garden soils. Seeds grown under organic conditions are more robust and have fewer issues. Hence they are preprogrammed to thrive under organic conditions.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Its_All_Light

Another great documentary. Thank you. Perhaps you would be interested to do a piece on the Findhorn Foundation in the north of Scotland which grew out of the principles of biodynamic growing, since the 1960s. This eco-community has grown into an international community for education and sustainable living, with the most beautiful eco-homes and famous gardens. Started in the 1960s by Eileen and Peter Caddy and Dorothy Maclean, who, through their own inner direction in meditation, achieved the almost impossible: growing enormous vegetables on what was basically just a sandy beach. They proved the principles of biodynamic growing.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Guillermou

Its_All_Light, all this is extraordinary, we need new ways to regenerate the earth and make it more productive respecting the laws of nature. I read about the Findhorn Foundation on its website: "The Findhorn Foundation is a dynamic experiment where everyday life is guided by the inner voice of spirit, where we work in co-creation with the intelligence of nature and take inspired action towards our vision of a better world. We share our learning and way of life in experiential workshops, conferences and events that take place within a thriving community and ecovillage".

www.findhorn.org/about-us

"Peter and Eileen Caddy settled in a caravan in Findhorn Bay, near the town of Findhorn. An annex was built in early 1963 so that Dorothy Maclean could come to live near them. They grew their own food and were publicly recognized for producing "exceptionally large vegetables." And people came to live in the caravan park, eventually forming the Findhorn Trust. "oaks.nvg.org/findhorn.html

Film director and producer Mattie Porte said, "There's a grassroots dialogue taking place all over the world and this film is a snapshot of the thinking and consciousness needed to co-create a regenerative planet for our children and our children's children. "The strength of the film lies in its holistic and inclusive exploration into the stories that shape us as humanity and compel us to create the positive change we want to see in our world: an empowering counterpoint to the stories of hopelessness and despair we see in the news every day." www.findhorn.org/new-story-film

It contains a GREAT VIDEO "A NEW STORY FOR HUMANITY" revindicative on what should constitute the true values of humanity " Also, a video with its pleasant homes where an environment is developed that supports personal growth and a way of living respecting and living with nature, opening to love and being the change we want to see in the world <https://youtu.be/C5osNXbcKKE>

Posted On 01/11/2020

juststeve

Absolutely beautiful properly morally & grounded Life enhancing business. Perhaps the Seeds of this business, both it's practices & product will inspired others to engage in more of the same.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

Its All Light - Thanks. You nudged me to pull out my first edition (1975) Findhorn book, which I haven't looked at in decades. Lots of emphasis on the influences of the non-physical realms. Might seem a bit woo-woo to the uninitiated - it was to me when I first read it, even though I was already a student of Steiner at the time (mid 70's)- It can grow on you after years of implementation of the ideas.

Posted On 01/11/2020

juststeve

The drive for sane living & healthier lives is a dominate force undermined by the distraction of having to find our way through a greed system that feeds itself at the expense of everything else. A business like this is such an inspiration, and the post so far are showing it is not a lack of trying by the public. Here in America, it has been done before. FDR gets a lot of credit for bringing the country out of poverty & the Great Depression, what many don't realize is much of what was put into practice on the national scale was being done at local, county and different state levels as people realized then the multi-millionaires of the time were not about to rescue them.

If projects were baring fruit, FDR's people would ramp them up. Then as the decades progressed, the practices were taken over and the need for greed, the corruption element crept in and we are where we are today. It can be done, it has been done. But all starts with one person and like a seed, it grows from there. We just have to figure out how to keep malignant narcissistic psychopaths' from rising to the top. Cream is so much more pleasant than sour milk.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Guillermou

Well expressed JUST. Monopolistic corporate interests. This has created a buddy capitalist economy that uses the government to further enrich the rich at the expense of the people, often threatening our basic needs for life. A clear example of this is found in the behavior of the chemical and seed corporation, Monsanto

Probably the worst example occurred when the U.S. executive branch became convinced back in the mid 1980s, during the administration of President Reagan, that the biotechnology industry was going to be one of the main ways in which the U.S. economy would come out of its doldrums. A policy was adopted to promote the biotech industry without any new regulations. It was reported to be science-based, but scholars who studied it concluded it was not science based. It was framed and motivated by economic and political considerations. The FDA broke that law and lied about the facts in order to get GMOs on the market.

Most people in the United States don't realize that they've been eating genetically engineered foods since the mid-1990s. More than 60 percent of all processed foods on U.S. supermarket shelves—including pizza, chips, cookies, ice cream, salad dressing, corn syrup, and baking powder, contain ingredients from engineered soybeans, corn, or canola.

Corn is a clear example. Analysts determined that Starlink, a transgenic variety of yellow corn designed to break up the stomach cells of annoying caterpillars, showed a possible allergic reaction in humans. Then, when the Environmental Protection Agency approved the Starlink, its use was limited to animal feed and fuel. In just a few years, Starlink's DNA was found in several varieties of corn, and its widespread contamination was responsible for the withdrawal of dozens of products from the market. In 2003, Aventis CropScience paid a group of American farmers. \$ 110 million due to falling corn prices associated with Starlink contamination

Posted On 01/11/2020

juststeve

Excellent research Gui, Marketing, Debate & Money Science trumping the truth of actual Life Science cross contaminating on so many levels. GMO's with their unrestrained sexual habits cross contaminating multiple plant species and their functions, like a leaky genetic gut, along with compounds locked deep within the plants tearing caterpillars guts, no doubt tearing our guts apart making them leak to cause inflammation leading to cascades of multiple diseases. And who is supposed to believe this does not affect the birds & bees? Don't feed the greed, choose Life.

Posted On 01/11/2020

island girl

Starlink corn used a "variant of the bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) protein called Cry9C.[2] Cry9C had not been used in a GM crop prior to StarLink, causing heightened regulatory scrutiny" (wiki). But most of today's GM corn still has Bt in it, just not Cry9C alone. It is still messing up microbiome, causing autoimmune, etc. Don't eat ANY corn or corn product today that isn't certified organic. And it seems you're still taking a chance...

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

island girl - And now that it has been so widely used for so long, insects are now becoming immune to an organism that for millions of years was deadly to them. It's now feared that the wild strains of BT may no longer have the desired effect that nature intended - all thanks to the hubris of corporate America!

Posted On 01/11/2020

Guillermou

Thanks island girl. Also. Aventis hastened to launch its StarLink GM corn on the market, with the powerful Bt protein introduced in the StarLink known as Cry9C that has common characteristics in known allergens and regulators feared that the consumption of that corn triggered allergic reactions. Due to the risks of contamination of conventional corn crops with Cry9C pollen brought by the wind, the EPA demanded that 660 feet wide safety strips be left around StarLink fields. The way in which the EPA registered the StarLink forced Aventis to inform the producers about the restricted use of that corn and about the requirement to use safety strips 660 feet wide. The company would also be responsible for ensuring that these restrictions were adhered to and that StarLink corn did not reach the human food chain.

Aventis did not satisfactorily meet any of those requirements. Many seed sellers and farmers were never informed of such restrictions that, in truth, were not even printed on the bags or labels of StarLink seeds. Aventis did nothing to ensure that safety strips were being used. Nor did it monitor the effectiveness of these security strips. In addition, he never performed any type of analysis or tests to ensure that contamination was not occurring. More than 40 people reported adverse effects to the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including three deaths attributed to severe allergic reactions. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the USA. UU.

scholarship.law.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1167&context=wm..

Posted On 01/11/2020

Guillermou

Yes, Mr. Farmer Krofter. The extensive use of chemical pesticides represents a major threat to the environment and food security. The discovery of *Bacillus thuringiensis* Toxins (Bt) with effective insecticidal activity against pests and the development of transgenic plant technology opened a new era of pest control. Bt GM crops, including corn, cotton and soybeans, have been produced and marketed to protect against some 30 major pests of beetles and lepidoptera. However, with the long-term cultivation of Bt crops, some target pests have gradually developed resistance. Numerous studies have indicated that mutations in the genes for toxin activation, toxin binding and insect immunization are important sources of resistance to Bt. www.the-scientist.com/the-nutshell/insects-are-increasingly-evolving-r.. (2017)

Posted On 01/11/2020

Sue12Cross

There are several organic seed companies here in France but they have had to fight for survival against the owners of huge seed corporations who have tried to bring in all kinds of laws to push them out of business. One of the most draconian was when they got the government to agree to a 100 Euro yearly fee for registering every variety. As an organic seed company like Kokopelli has over 600 varieties just of heirloom tomatoes, there was no way they could survive. Luckily some individuals stepped in and became 'godparents' to the different vegetables, fruits, flowers and herbs and the company survived. However it all goes to show the horrible destructive, selfish greed that surrounds every area of life, even something as positive and uplifting as growing from seed. One thing I find very telling in organic seed is the 'sell-by-date' - 10 years plus.

I'm still using seed I bought 15 years ago from organic companies like Sainte Marthe, Kokopelli and Biau Germe. It's the usual story, you buy a packet and don't need to use them all but with conventional seed, which is presumably already several years old when sold because of the short viability dates, you are forced to buy again every year, which is both wasteful and expensive. It's a question of philosophy and ethos, as with all of us small organic growers who freely give seeds, cuttings, hatching eggs, information and shared experiences ... because we love to see and want to help others succeed in getting free from the chains of modern life and it is that which will defeat the greedy in the end. Great news from the US and hopefully more organic seed companies will be encouraged by example to start up too!

Posted On 01/11/2020

juststeve

Godparent's for those who are engaged in smaller, local, human scale and actual Life promoting business's? Sounds like a possible way to outflank the dominate bloated Corporate Dinosaur sickness model.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Sue12Cross

Hi Steve, Actually the godparent for all of the 650 varieties of tomato was the Prince de Broglie, who started life as a banker and is now an organic gardener, so I guess he was well qualified to understand how necessary it was to change. I've been to his garden and eaten the tomatoes and I've grown many of the varieties in my own garden. They are incredible and people who think tomatoes are just those hard, round, red, uniform horrors from the supermarkets are missing out on so much. Even the names are exciting; Green Zebra, Pineapple, Brandywine, Andes Horned Tomato, Black Crimean (my favourite)... To think they could have all been lost.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

Sue - Several decades ago I had some interns from France at my previous farm, for which kokopelli was my logo. Now I'm wondering if they began the seed company, Kokopelli. For those who don't know, Kokopelli is a native American legend said to have been a wandering flute player who reintroduced knowledge that people had lost due to a major world-wide disaster. Ancient images of him are etched in stone cliff faces and alcoves all over the South Western region of the US where I live. He is often depicted with a humped back, which many believe was a bag of seed he carried (and dispersed) to help native populations bounce back. It's thought he played the flute to let people know, as he approached their settlements, that he was harmless.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Sue12Cross

Hi Krofter - that is really interesting and here is the link to Kokopelli which explains its roots and at the start in 1980s one of its founder members was travelling in the US learning about medicinal plants and the Amerindian Culture kokopelli-semences.fr/.../qui-sommes-nous We all pass so much information on and it is great to find that people were inspired to do something because of that! All the very best from the Baie de Mont Saint Michel, Sue

Posted On 01/11/2020

mar6915

Kokopelli play for me, So my heart may sing, Magic flute of mystery, Fruitful dreams you bring. Song of Aztlan, Fertile Fire, Canyons of my mind, Sacred union, Heart to heart, Speaks of the Divine. www.indigenouspeople.net/kokopelli.htm When you drag your curser around he dances for you. Ancient rock star. I heard of people even seeing him in the moon (craters, similar to the man in the moon) when it reflects on the water. I'd have to find that old information.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

Although they have long since expanded into food production, to the best of my knowledge, Seeds Of Change was the first organic seed company in the US. When I worked for them on their grow-out farm in Gila N.M. the early 90's we were growing hundreds of rare, heirloom seed crops. It WAS a great company with a high calling. Then it went corporate and everything went downhill. I've been selling my own organic seeds for about 15 years - erdakroft.com/Seed_Listing.html

Posted On 01/11/2020

heinecamp

Do you know why they went corporate? That might sound like a dumb question, but I always wonder what happens to the founders / leaders of these companies that sell out ... I mean, at one point in time they were driven by higher principles, higher values. What happens? Do they give up because it's too hard? Or? Thoughts? thanks.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

It's a long and sordid affair with lots of dirty laundry, none of which is appropriate to be aired out in this forum. Suffice it to say that greed won out over morality.

Posted On 01/11/2020

bowgirl

Saving seeds is a great way to ensure you have what you need for the next year. Most of us save much more than we will use and will gladly share. Saving seed is easy.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

Just watched the video. I don't think Ronnie Cummings would call this farm "regenerative". With all the plastic mulch, plastic greenhouses, fiber row covers - all of which will soon end up in a landfill, to be replaced with more of the same - this farm can't even be considered "sustainable". Not to mention the fossil fuel guzzling tractors and all the other pickups and cars parked in the field. Such is the state of so called "organic" farming today. This is why many farmers like myself have moved past organic to embrace regenerative practices, which eschew all the petrochemical based artifice.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Harabanaz

I am posting this just. Before I watch the film. There is a lot of good work being done here with regards to more organic seeds, however there was one issue not mentioned that people may not want to hear and that is that more and more of our organic seeds in catalogs like high mowing and Johnny's. As two examples, are being sold with utility patents. Larger seed companies are behind this spreading issue. I am all for organic seeds and food. It needs to be open source. Under a utility patent if it extends to the home gardener, if he or she saves a seed unknowingly from a patented variety and they decide to sell it or trade it through a seed swap ect. they may be open to being sued. there is a web site for an organization called AIB Anti infringement Agency that enforces these patents, see Rocky Mountain seed alliance and reference podcasts, who owns our seeds to see this is real and a growing threat to seed saving.

For more on this issue check out Rocky mountain seed alliance and listen to podcasts with Bill McDorman about how these utility patents are creeping into home garden catalogs. Also see Acres USA Jan issue 2019 for some real eye opening articles, especially the one By CR Lawn. Formerly with Fed Co seeds. Hopefully I won't get in trouble for referencing Rocky mountain Seeds and Fed Co, this little known issue needs to be out in the open because a lot of home garden catalogs are not transparent about patented seeds. Steve F Wyoming This is not a negative post to the article, just an add on to be aware of.

Posted On 01/11/2020

smaltown6

Dr. Mercola, I think you need to read this from the USDA office. Organic farmers have to use organic seeds, unless they aren't available, then they must non-GMO and not sprayed with prohibited substances. So even though some use conventional seeds, they aren't terrible at least

www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Organic%20Practices%20Facts..

Posted On 01/11/2020

Julia Vassilevskaia

not only seeds, organic produce from large corporations that grow both conventional and organic would be also compromised. Try to look for "fair trade" organic produce only. For example, Doles organic bananas are nightly contaminated. Many people experience bloating or other discomfort when eating them thinking that they can't tolerate bananas. In my case I was covered with a rash that went away when stop eating dole bananas. After two weeks break switching to fair trade bananas causing no rash or any other issues.

Posted On 01/11/2020

island girl

Not to take away from this company, but there are other seed companies selling organic seed, like FEDCO, affiliated with the Maine Organic Farmers and I trust them. Do a search on organic seed for price comparisons, etc.

Posted On 01/11/2020

mar4442

Organic seeds is just the beginning. The first step is to build up the soil, but that is also getting a little ahead of another issue--the ground considered for growing. Unless we have at least a 50 year history of the ground, I suggest starting off with a sterile mix of ingredients, in a sealed raised bed, which is described in a book I have written 10 years ago. Once the mix is made, then we must get a liquid form of organic fertilizer, and bio-char. One source of bio-char is Morningstar Minerals, located in Farmington, NM. This particular bio-char contains a vital ingredient, which is dubbed the "life-giver." Fulvic Acid can be found in humus, composting leaves.

However bio-char is also charcoal, for which when added to any soil will increase the effectiveness of fertilizing, and once added it will last a lifetime. Once the raised bed is made, with the added soil mix and fertilizer, it is then ready for transplants--not seeds. Seeds need to be started in sterile soil, and no fertilizer is used until the first true leaves appear--hardened off--then transplanted. Very few seeds need to be direct seeded, such as carrots, because they do not transplant well.

All nutrition begins in the soil. One more thing--look into "High Brix Gardening," which produces crops that are nutritionally packed. A brief historical account: Two farmers living adjacent to each other. One was growing with the Brix method and the other neighbor growing conventionally. One day the conventional farmer sited his neighbor and walked over to him. When he stepped into the Brix farm, all the insects that covered his clothing left him. You see? Even the insects know when not to bother a good crop, and no pesticides. Pesticides make up where the soil fell short, which is an invitation for an insect feast.

Conclusion: If the soil is correct so will be the food grown--insect-free!

Posted On 01/11/2020

mar6915

Well stated mar. I did get a raised bed, sadly that's as far as I got. I need to go dig up dirt in the woods to get started. I am leary of the bags of top soil at the farm store. Glyphosates anyone ! Gratitude for helping us remember bio-char. I noticed that even buying bags of dirt (soil) for my flowers concerns me. they come full of vermiculite. which still in this day and time contains asbestos.

Posted On 01/11/2020

junebabywoh.rr.com

omgosh exceeding my expectations again! High Mowing organic seeds! I knew this was a problem but didnt know the answer but Dr. Mercola did! I hope I can buy their seeds someplace or order them for my tiny little garden. I'm going to show my local grocery store your article! YOU ARE THE BEST DR. MERCOLA!

Posted On 01/11/2020

HealthiestChoices

Hi, junebabywoh.rr.com~ One of your local grocery stores 'may' carry them, or check with the company to see where they're sold in your area. I was delighted a few yrs. ago to see them in our Wegman's grocery store.

Posted On 01/11/2020

mar6915

Have to be thankful for the articles. Always something to learn. I had never heard of the term high mowing for hay bales. Perhaps that is where we get the term mow the yard when we used to call it cutting the grass. The seed deal is a necessary as "real" seeds have fallen along the wayside so to speak, being replaced with genetic modified and sealed in pesticides. I must say I got a junk e mail this morning and would have wondered what it meant had I not read this valuable article. the e mail said: 🌱 High Mowing Organic Seeds Ship Free!

It is time to start our seeds indoors if you can. I moved petunias indoors from last autumn. Evening blooming. Extremely mild winter here where I am this season. Please Please don't be fooled by all the pretty flowers at the stores this spring, as people even stick their noses in them. After seeing an article with graphic pictures, they all get sprayed with pesticides in the fields, where grown. So even flowers not just food we need to watch out about. I save the tiny petunia seeds and they grow real nice. When your flowers die off and the little seed pod is left, simply rub between your fingers and it goes back into your planter to regrow. Don't cut off and toss out, then go buy the pesticide ridden nonsense in the stores next spring.

Posted On 01/13/2020

Epona777

I have been growing my gardens from High Mowing Seeds for years now. For one, I believe they are the best, and secondly, I am so very happy to be supporting a local business in my home state.

Posted On 01/11/2020

Krofter

Two other sources for organic seeds that I've been using for many years are Peaceful Valley Supply and Johnny's. Not all of Johnnys are organic but many are.

Posted On 01/11/2020

mar6915

I use the peaceful valley. thanks for mentioning it.

Posted On 01/11/2020
