



Genetic Food Alert

www.geneticfoodalert.org.uk

Issue Spring 2001

GM-FREE Nutritional Supplements

The companies named below have provided GFA with written guarantees that the products listed here are GM-Free to GFA Standards. In signing GFA's guarantee the companies are making a public statement that they are exercising due diligence in avoiding all GM ingredients, derivatives, enzymes and processes in the manufacture of these products. At a minimum, due diligence requires the manufacturers of supplements to obtain written guarantees from the manufacturers of all their ingredients confirming

"... the companies are making a public statement that they are exercising due diligence in avoiding all GM ingredients, derivatives, enzymes and processes in the manufacture of these products."

that these are GM-Free. Responsibility for the accuracy of these statements lies with the companies and not with GFA, and copies of the guarantees are available for inspection on request.

GFA introduces online Database

Thanks to a recent addition to the GFA website, members can now search for the GM status of over 400 brand lines by pressing just a few keys.

The online database is the result of months of research by GFA, and to celebrate the passing of the milestone of having results on over 400 brandlines a new search programme was included on the website. The programme asks users to type in a keyword (for example the name of a brand, product, distributor or manufacturer) and will then list all the entries from the database that match that keyword. For the first time details of the GM status of Nutritional Supplements will be made available in this database, allowing users to search for both food and nutritional supplement products - the database will be updated during the course of February.

American Sports Nutrition All brands / products

Amerifit Nutrition Inc (USA) /

Estroven Ltd (UK) Estroven

Arkopharma Phytosoya capsules

Bee Health Ltd All brands / products

Best Care Products Ltd All Best Care

Biocare Ltd All Biocare Products

BioForce (UK) Ltd All brands / products

Capitalcliff Ltd Natural Balance,

Trimedica, Biotech (despite the name)

Double Dragon Man Shuen Hong

(London) All brands / products

Earth Force Planetary Formulas

Faith Products Ltd All 'Faith in Nature' and 'Clearspring' products.

Four Seasons All 'Free' branded products

G&G Organic Herb Range

The Green People Co. All Herbal Supplements

Health Perception (UK) Ltd All brands / products

Ibis International Corp. All Siddhaeepa

Ayurveda products

Jessup Marketing HRI Herbal Remedies

Marigot Health Products Aquacal

Millenium Supplements All brands / products
Nature's Store Ltd All brands / products

Neal's Yard Remedies All brands / products

Natrahealth All Natrahealth Products

Rio Trading Co (Health) Ltd Rio

Amazon Guarana

Specialist Herbal Supplies All products

Tisserand (Aromatherapy) All brands / products

Trefrew Wells Spa Spatone Iron +

Vitasure Ltd All brands / products

21st Century Health Ltd Some brands only - awaiting clarification.

'Vitamin A' Rice - a myth uncovered

In a surprising move the pro-GM Rockefeller Foundation which has funded the development of the GM 'Golden Rice' has stated that claims about its benefits have 'gone too far'.

Syngenta, the biotech company who owns the patent for the rice, is claiming that the rice could save the sight of 500,000 children a year. Rockefeller however say that these claims are exaggerated. Independent scientists have worked out that an adult would have to eat 9kg of cooked rice per day to get the RDA of vitamin A, a pregnant woman would need twice that amount. Even the scientist who developed golden rice, Dr. Ingo Potrykus, has admitted there is not a single published study showing that the human body can convert the beta-carotene in the GM rice to vitamin A.

Social campaigners point out that this and other similar projects have cost literally billions of dollars and diverted both money and attention away from cheaper and less risky alternatives to tackling vitamin A deficiency.

cont. page 3

Bosnia refuses GM Food 'Aid'

The U.S. was forced to withdraw a four million dollar donation of GM maize after Bosnian officials refused to accept it over fears of health risks for humans this January. The U.S. embassy stated that it was "disappointed" that the 40,000 tonnes of animal feed were sent back with the demand for thorough information on the effects on both humans and animals.

Campaigning on behalf of the UK Wholefood Trade

Boghall Four on Trial for GM Crop Decontamination Action

In January a guilty verdict was given on four activists accused of 'vandalism' for their part in a large public protest in a GM crop trial outside of Edinburgh.

The trial lasted an incredible 18 months, a reflection more of the poor state of the Edinburgh court system, than of the complexities of the arguments presented.

The protest, organised by *Fife Earth First!* and supported by *Friends of The Earth Scotland* and the *Scottish Green Party* took place on Scottish Agricultural College land at Boghall Farm, near Edinburgh in March 1999. A number of GM tests are conducted at Boghall each year, and it was the site of two crop decontaminations in 1998.

Around 100 people from across Scotland and the north of England gathered and marched from a nearby organic farm to the GM winter oilseed rape test - a journey of less than a mile as the bee flies!

Some onlookers estimated that over half of those present entered the 4-5 acre field and began to remove plants, despite a heavy police presence.

The police seemed reluctant to intervene, contenting themselves with arresting 6 people in an attempt to break the spirit of the protest. Needless to say they failed! All 6 were charged with obstruction, 4 were also charged additionally with vandalism. The obstruction charges were thrown out early in the proceedings.

This was one of a series of public and accountable actions to take place at crop test sites in Scotland in the past few years. Scottish activists had been decontaminating fields in full view of the police a full year before the media interest over the arrest of Peter Melchett and his 27 Greenpeace colleagues. Whilst the national media focused on the Greenpeace trial in Norfolk, where the 28 protesters were acquitted by a jury, the 6 arrested at Boghall were tried under the Scottish legal system with no access to a jury.

Sheriff Jarvie heard details of the threats posed by Horizontal Gene Transfer from Dr. Mae Wan Ho. Dr. Ho pointed to the 'reasonable suspicion of harm' and the lack of any evidence of the safety of GMOs. She referred to the increase in allergic reactions seen in the population since the introduction of GMOs. The precautionary principle, she argued, necessitated an end to open air trails. Dr. Geoff Squires of the Scottish Crop Research Institute spoke about government sponsored research that highlighted the inevitability of 'the farm to farm spread of transgenes'.

Facing charges that they acted "recklessly, wilfully and without reasonable excuse", the four defendants spoke passionately about

their opposition to GM trials, and the necessity to take action where 'democratic' representatives failed to protect the public interest. Arguments were put forward, and reinforced with reference to the Environmental Protection Act that GM crop trials caused 'harm' to the environment and to the livelihood of beekeepers and neighbouring farmers. It was argued that only a few inadequate safeguards exist and that open air trials constitute a form of criminal damage.

The Procurator Fiscal (prosecutor) claimed that all four had no right to an opinion since they were not 'eminent' scientists.

However his questioning faded in the face of knowledgeable and calm responses.

Despite this the Sheriff still found that in her opinion there was no reasonable excuse presented to the court and fined the 4 a total of £625. Her full written judgement is awaited! The possibility of appeal has not been ruled out.

Outside the court the four made a clear statement that the campaign against GM in Scotland was far from over.

Contributions to the fine fund can be made to: Scottish Genetix Action, PO Box 2619, Baillieston, Glasgow, G69 7WA.

Top UK Research Centre Admits GM Failure

Scientists in UK's top GM crop research institute, the John Innes Centre, publicly admitted earlier this year that GM crops are failing.

The John Innes Centre is UK's leading plant research institute, and receives over £10m of public money every year. It also houses the Sainsbury Laboratory and has research alliances with Zeneca and Dupont. Not surprisingly, the John Innes Centre has some of the most pro-GM scientists who have been staunchly defending GM crops from critics like ourselves. However, two items are noteworthy in the latest annual report from the John Innes Centre, the first reveals that GM barley lines became unstable and variable in later generations of field trials. The researchers concluded, "The results show that transgenic lines need to be examined over a number of generations under field conditions to obtain the necessary data on transgenic stability and agronomic performance", and

also call for "detailed molecular and genetic analysis". Scientists critical of GM technology have been demanding this for years.

The second item concerns the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus (CaMV 35S) promoter - used in virtually all commercialised GM crops. The dangers of this promoter has often been discussed in the scientific journals, yet always reviled and attacked by pro-GM scientists, among whom one of the fiercest was the leader of a research group in the John Innes Centre. Now the same group admits the need to avoid the problems caused by the use of the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus.

The authors of the second report also suggest the development of 'clean DNA' technology as a possible solution to the problem. That however would amount to pronouncing the death sentence for all GMOs. All GM crops currently on the market or under review contain the CaMV 35S promoter.

French Robin Hood on trial for GM 'Decontamination'

France's favourite rebel farmer, Jose Bove, is once again on trial for destroying GM crops in an incident two years ago. The retrial of the French popular hero was demanded by the prosecutor because the original sentence was deemed too lenient.

The anti-globalisation protestor is perhaps best known for sacking a McDonald's fast food establishment in protest against *la malbouffe* (awful food) and punitive US tariffs against French delicacies. But even before this incident Bove broke into a GM laboratory in Cirad, S. France and destroyed the GM rice plants there, and earlier this year Bove joined poor Brazilian farmers in uprooting rows of genetically modified soybeans at an experimental farm owned by US-based Monsanto during a giant anti-capitalism forum in Porto Alegre in Brazil. Bove,

head of the *Confederation Paysanne* farmers' union, also played a prominent role in protests at the 1999 World Trade Organisation trade liberalisation talks in Seattle that were abandoned in the face of peaceful blockades, despite controversial police violence. Bove now faces several months in jail, but declares that a prison sentence will not deter him from further direct action. Michel Zaoui, lawyer for the Cirad research institute where Bove and two partners destroyed the rice plants in 1999, summed the situation up rather succinctly when he said that the protest had caused four million francs of damage. "During these hearings, Cirad [the GM Laboratories] was made to look like the guilty one and treated as if it aimed to damage the planet and make the poor even poorer," he complained to the court.

Huntingdon Life Sciences GM involvement

In the wake of the controversy over Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) animal testing laboratories more evidence has come to light about HLS' involvement in Genetic Manipulation.

HLS first hit the headlines when undercover investigators filmed beagles being abused by laboratory workers. When shown on TV, the footage caused national outrage. Since then the laboratories have become a focus for animal welfare activists, and recently caused much controversy in the media when the Royal Bank of Scotland called in their loan. At that time the mostly peaceful protestors were subject to heavy policing and indiscriminately labelled terrorists by the media and government.

Until a few months ago, HLS was receiving genetically-modified pigs from a facility near Alness, Scotland. This "farm" bred pigs with genetic modifications designed to make their organs less likely to be rejected by human transplant patients before it closed last autumn. Owned by a company which contracts animal experiment work to HLS, the farm was so secret that until the Animal Welfare campaign Animal Concern exposed it, Highland Council and the Scottish Executive did not know it had been there - despite the risk genetically-modified pigs pose to human health.

At the end of last summer more information emerged concerning pig-to-primate transplant research carried out in Scotland for HLS. Papers which appear to have been leaked from HLS appeared on the internet claiming animals endured severe pain and suffering in these experiments and highlighting the risks posed by diseases crossing species. Allegations have also been made that Lord Sainsbury took part in suppressing this information.

GM Rice U-turn (from pg 1)

In the short term, childhood blindness resulting from Vitamin A deficiency could be cheaply and effectively addressed through distribution of vitamin supplements. In the long term, sustainable agriculture and diet diversification programs should be implemented to increase access to foods naturally rich in vitamin A. Prof. Nestle of the Dept of Nutrition and Food Studies at New York University stated that: "Nutrition science, however, suggests that golden rice alone will not greatly diminish vitamin A deficiency and associated blindness. [...] People whose diets lack [fats and proteins] or who have

Farmers Storm Monsanto in Anger at GM Food Myths

As the West bullies Third World governments into using GM crops, peasant farmers around the world are denouncing products that would increase economic dependency, destroy the livelihoods of all but a privileged few farmers and replace locally-controlled food production with corporate-controlled monoculture for export.

On the 29th November Filipino farmers held massive demonstrations outside Monsanto's offices in Mindanao at the end of the Continental Caravan 2000 - a series of protests by many farmers unions across India and Bangladesh. They were joined by farmers from Indonesia, Thailand, Japan and Korea. Habibur Rahman, a farmer representing Nayakrishi Andolon (New Agriculture Movement), stated: "the Bangladeshi farmers reject genetically engineered rice and I am pleased to learn about the strong resistance here in the Philippines."

On the 3rd January Indian farmers relaunched their *Cremate Monsanto* campaign

"We want to make a statement ... these seeds trick farmers and create dependency on seeds produced by a big multinational."

as 300 volunteers of the newly-formed 'Hasiru Sene' (Green Brigade) - the youth wing of the Karnataka State Farmer's Association - pulled up and burned Monsanto's trial crops of GM cotton.

And on the 26th January over 1200 Brazilian farmers stormed Monsanto's research centre and pulled up GM corn and soybean trials at the start of an ongoing occupation. "We're staying here indefinitely," said Solet Campolet, a local Landless Workers Move-

intestinal diarrheal diseases - common in developing countries - cannot obtain vitamin A from golden rice." Expensive, limited access solutions like GE rice exacerbate the fundamental problems of hunger and malnutrition.

Plans of how to resist the crop have already been drawn up by farmers in New Delhi, and campaigners in India continue to organise further resistance. "Genetic engineering at its current stage of development is an inefficient, unnecessary, hazardous, and untested technology to remove nutritional deficiencies," said Dr Vandana Shiva, director of the The Research Foundation for Science Technology and Ecology in New Delhi.

ment (MST) leader. "We want to make a statement ... these seeds trick farmers and create dependency on seeds produced by a big multinational." The MST families took over the research center and warehouses, hanging hammocks and setting up mattresses and boxes of food. The protesters scrawled on the walls, "The seed of death!" and "Monsanto is the end of farmers!"

As Third World governments finally see through western propaganda, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Saudi Arabia have joined the growing group of nations rejecting GM food and crops. A senior Sri Lankan health ministry official, S. Nagiah said, "The government wants to wait until the controversy surrounding GM foods has cleared." He added that the government wished to avoid health risks and that there were no price advantages to be gained from importing GM foods.

Meanwhile suspicion grows that the US Government is subsidising its agbiotech industry by buying up unsellable GM crops from Cargill and ADM to dump as 'food aid'. This concern was voiced by the US-based development agency, Food First, as groups from cyclone-devastated Orissa, famine-struck Ethiopia, Burundi, the Philippines and Ecuador complained about the high levels of GM products (around 30%) in food aid.

The USDA has admitted that its 'Food for Peace' program is a 'concessional sales program to promote exports of US agricultural commodities' and USDA Secretary, Dan Glickman explained that he encouraged multinational agribusinesses to donate transgenic food through food aid programs.

Rafael Mariano, chair of the KMP Farmers Union (Philippines), condemned these deals, saying "the agricultural monopolies are very cruel, knowing that starving people have little choice but to accept the food and

be grateful even if our biological future is being slowly corrupted with dangerous technologies." India's Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology (RFSTE), which is carrying out relief work in Orissa, stated in a press release that "Emergency situations should not be used for dumping untested and unethical foods on vulnerable sectors" and Dr Tewolde Gebre Egziabher, agriculture spokesman for Ethiopia said "Countries in the grip of a crisis are unlikely to have the leverage to say, 'This crop is contaminated, we're not taking it'," he said. "They should not be faced with a dilemma between allowing a million people to starve to death and allowing their genetic pool to be polluted."

GM Free to GFA Standards

March 2001

Alternative Cakes	Celestial Seasonings	Fentimans	Kettle Tortillas	Norfolk Punch
Ame	Herb Teas	Figaro	Kettle Valley	Now
Apache	Chalice Foods	First Glace	Kite Wholefoods	Nutritea
Aqua Libra	Cheatin'	Floradix	Krakus	Orgran
Arran Fine Foods	Cheezly	Florentino	La Fruit	Pacha
Aspall	Chef Ledoult Sa	Forest Products	La Legumerie De La	Paliria
Barbara's Bakery	Chiman's	Gelozone	Cote D'opale	Panda
Barleycup	Clipper Teas	Gilberts Biosalt	La Verja	Park Ln Bakery Fats
Baxters Soups	Clive's Veg. Pies	Giovanni	Lanes Herb Salt	Parmazano
Be Natural Bars	Commex	Golden Temple	Life	Pataks
Bevelini	Cookie Coach	Good Life	Liora	Patersons
Bevelynn	Coteaux Nantais Sa	Good Morning	Lite & Less	Percol Coffee
Biddy Merkins	Cotswold	Buckwheat Cereal	Litejack	Pete & Johnny Plc
Billingtons	Country Bakehouse	Goodness Foods	London Fruit & Herb	Plamil
Bio Korn	Cream O'Galloway	Granny Ann	Longley Farm	Pleniday
Bioferme	Crusha	Grannymels	Lowthers	Provamel
Biogarde	Dairyland Organic	Granovita	Lye Cross	Purdeys
Bio-Knabber Mix	Dat Wang Ginseng	Grizzly	Lyegrano	Pure Spreads
Blue Dragon	Tea	Gusto Herbal Drinks	Lyme Regis	Rabenhorst
Blue Green Planet	Delicias	Heath & Heather	Ma Bakers	Rayner
Bonbon Jeanette	Divine Milk Choco.	Helios	Macsweens	Really Interesting Food Co.
Bord À Bord	Dr. Stuart's Teas	Hellenic	Maldon	Rice Dream
Broadland Veg. Suet	Duchesse	Hendersons	Mandy Lau	Rice Parmesan
Burgess	Eco Candy	Imagine	Meridian	Ridgway
Byodo	Eco Sweets	Innocent Smoothies	Molle Skovly	Ridings
Cafe Society	Eco-Zone	Itona	Montalbano	Rozbert
Cafedirect	Eden Juices	Jacksons Piccadilly	Montignac	Saker Foods
Cakes For The	Efal Bio Diabetic	Jethro's	Mrs. Leepers	Sammy's Easy Cook Cous
Connoisseur	Engevita	Just So	Nairns	Cous
Caledonian Beers	Equal Exchange	Just Wholefoods	Natex	San Amvrosia
Cannabia	Essential	Kallo	Naturally Good	San Rocco
Cauldron Foods	F.G. Roberts	Kashi	Nordex Food (UK)	Sanchi

Organic

1066 Country Organic	Cereal Terra	Green & Blacks	Natur Frisk	Shady Maple Farms
Acetum	Che Mate	Hemp Ice	Natural Selection	Simply Organic
Aconbury Sprouts	Choconat	Hemp Union	Natures Path	Soto
Allos	Crazy Jack	Hider 'Organic'	Olmuhle Solling	Source Foods
Amaizin	Danival	Hipp	Oma Organic Cheese	Staffs. Org. Cheese
Amy's Kitchen	Do-It	Impulse Foods	Organic Valley	Sucanat
Annie's Naturals	Doves Farm	It's Soya Good	Organico	Sunnyvale Organic
Baby Organix	Dragonfly Org. Beany	Juniper Green	Original Fresh	Swiss Nature
Babynat	Dragonfly Org. Tofu	Kettle Organics	Babyfood	Syramena
Bambu	Dragonfly Teas	Kitchen Garden	Paul's Tofu	Taifun
Barbagallo	Duchy Originals	La Bio-Idea	Pertwood Org. Cereals	The Distinctive Drinks Co
Barnhouse	Earlstone Shitake	Le Piagge	Piramide	The Hampstead Tea &
Basic Organics	Mushrooms	Les Caves Vertes	Primeal	Coffee Co
Bio Verde	Ecobiscuits	Liostaema	Principe Di Gerace	The Org. Food Co.
Biobambini	Ekoland	Lopino	Pure Organics	The Purewine Co.
Biodi	Eleven O'clock	Luscombe Org. Cider	Qi China Green Teas	The Quiet Revolution
Bioforce	Emile Noel	Luscombe Organic	Quinoa Real	The Redwood Co.
Biona	Eunature	Soft Drinks	Rachel Cater	The Stamp Collection
Bionova	Evernat	Maharishi Organic	Rachels Organic Dairy	The Village Bakery
Bioran	Fertilia	Agriculture Ltd.	Rapunzel	Topaz
Biosoleil	For Georgia's Sake	Manor Dairy	Redoro	Trafo
Biosun	Frans Andringa	Martellozzo	Reguin	UK5
Biotta	Free	Mayka	Rocombe Farm	Viana
Bongrain	Galloway Organic	Molenaarjtje	Rostoy	Vinceremos Org. Wines
Booja-Booja	Gilardi Org. Frozen	Monki	Sano Mio	Vintage Roots
Broughton Pastures	Pizza	Motherhemp	Santa Cruz	Vitalia
Bruno Fischer	Go Organic	Moulin De Valdonne	Schlossgut	Viver
Burger Knacke	Good Morning Organic	Mount Hagen Coffee	Hohenbeilstein	Voelkel
Campo	Cereals	MRL	Schnitzer	Whole Earth
	Gordon's English	Natali	Seagreens	Yakso
	Mustards	Nate Vegetarian Pate	Sedlescombe	Yeo Valley

GM Free (cont.)

Sangrita
Seggiano
Sesame Snaps
Shepherdboy
Shepherd's Purse
Cheeses
Simmers
Soho Vegan Cheese
Soya Slice
Soyco Foods
Speakeasy
Spectrum
St. Clements
Stamp Collection
Sweet Pot. Chips
Stamp Collection
Vegetable Chips
Strathmore Mineral
Water
Stute
Sunita
Sunrise Soya
Sussex High Weald
Dairy
Symingtons
T.M.Duche
Tartex
Tea Together
Teadirect
The Hemp Food Co.
The Redbush Tea Co.
Thompson's Slippery
Elm Food
Thursday Cottage
Thymelli
Tivall
Tofutti Iced Desserts
Traidcraft
Tropical Source
Tropical Wholefoods
Twinings
V8
Vecon
Vegerelle
Vegeren
Vegetarian Choice
Veggy Slice Mozzarella
Vegi-Deli
Vessen
Vital Rooibosch Tea
Vitaquell
Vitasoy
Volonte
Wakama
Wallaby
Westbrae Miso
Western Isles
Wholebake
Wild Honey (NZ.)
Yosa
Zwicky

NOT GM Free to GFA Standards

May Contain GM

Harry's Chips
Epicure
Lion
Innes Cheese
Fine Italian Food
Farmhouse Biscuits
Halo
Smilde

No Reply
Amora Maille
Barkat

Bespoke
Certo
Citadelle
Clara's Kitchen
Clif Bar
Coln Valley
Conimex
Costa
Curry Club
Dole Europe Co.
Earl Grey's Biscuits
Fancy Fruit
Finemix
Freeworld Trading

Geo Watkins
Granforno
Granoro
Heidelberg
Hero
K.B.Foods*
Krakus
La Bici
Langdales
Mazetti
Medown
Nong Shim
Nuts Direct
Old Fashioned Foods

Old Ranch House
Olof
Pepperidge Farm
Picnic Fayre
Pogen Krisprolls
Quintessential
Sasso
Skippy
Soymage
Sunbloom
Taylors Mustard
Tipiak
Vegemite

Adams Marketing - Adams Marketing have failed to provide the information we require: Vincent Adams in email to GFA: "I do have some problems with the current double standards being used for commercial gain within the overall GM debate. For my part I shall continue to do my best to influence real steps forward and show total integrity in my claims to the marketplace."

Bensons Crisps - Bensons Malt Vinegar flavour crisps are not GM Free.

Dairylike Foods - See **Haldane**

Dandex - see **GR Lanes**

DellUgo use 'Chymogen 190' in their vegetarian cheese, which they describe as "derives from but does not contain any Viable or Non-viable Genetically Modified material". They have given us assurances that none of their other products contain or involve GM, although we are unsure at this point of the definition of GM that DellUgo are using.

Direct Foods - See **Haldane**

Epicure (Petty, Wood & Co) "currently reviewing" their GM status and "cannot guarantee"

English Grains - See **Peter Black Healthcare**

Fine Italian Foods have guaranteed only that their products meet the current GM labelling legislation as foods that do not require labelling.

Gerard House - See **Peter Black Healthcare**

GR Lanes have issued guarantees on all their food products except Dandex dandelion coffee which they are discontinuing.

Granose - See **Haldane**

Halo are unable to guarantee the sugar syrups and starches used in their products.

Haldane have informed us that "all products produced by Haldane Foods Comply (to GFA standards) excluding those containing maltodextrin or aspartame". (10/7/00)

Hardrock Café Veggieburgers - See **Adams**

The Handmade Flapjack Only their Toffee Cake and Toffee Mega Muffin are listed as not being GM Free.

Innes Cheese use "vegetarian rennet 'Maxiren' which is produced by a genetically modified organism but itself contains no residual GMO"

Jordans Energie has antioxidant of GM origin.

Kettle Chips (Kettle Foods) cannot guarantee the following flavours as GM Free to our standards: Sea Salt and Crushed Black Pepper, Mature Cheddar & Burgundy, Tandoori Masala, French Onion (other flavours are guaranteed, as are Kettle Tortillas and Organic range).

Linda McCartney Dairylike - See **Haldane**

Lion are "working towards GMO Free".

Mr. Bean (Healthy Sales and Marketing) organic products only.

New Covent Garden Soup Co. cannot guarantee any product containing cheddar cheese.

Peter Black Healthcare Peter Black Healthcare have chosen not to respond to our questioning, saying that "we have concerns over this initiative...(i.e. Genetic Food Alert)...and have addressed these through our trade associations, CRN and HFMA.". (31st August, 2000).

Rakusens cannot, at present, guarantee the soya lecithin in the margarine contained in some of their other products. This affects: Tomor Block/Sunflower; Viennese Star/Fruit Shortcake/Fruit Flapjack/Honey Crunch/Ginger Crunch and Choc Chip Cookies; their Beef & Tomato Soup; and their Bean & Bites.

Realeat - See **Haldane**

Sleafords - much of the Sleaford's range has been guaranteed to a member of GFA as GM Free. They also provided a list of those products they did not regard as GM Free.

Snackmasters - See **Haldane**

So Good - See **Haldane**

Uniso - See **Haldane**

Vegetarian Cuisine - See **Haldane**

Vegetarian Feast - See **Haldane**

Yves Veggie Cuisine are not able to give us any information about ingredients other than soy.

For details of the standards used for the status of GM Free to GFA Standards, further details about this list, and regular updates on the status of products, please see the GFA website or contact us.

www.geneticfoodalert.org.uk

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What GFA stands for

Genetic Food Alert was founded by the UK wholefood trade in 1998 to campaign for a GM-Free trade and a ban on the production, import and sale of GM foods and crops. We oppose GM food and crops because they could pose significant threats to health, the environment and to the peoples of the Third World. GFA is one of over 100 members of the Five Year Freeze campaign.

What we do

- Research and publish details about GM and GM-Free foods and nutritional supplements.
- Agree GM-free standards for the UK wholefood trade.
- Provide members with information, letters and resources to help them go GM-free, to publicise their GM-free status and to campaign on GM issues.
- Support related campaigns and circulate their leaflets, petitions and postcards via wholefood shops.
- Provide a stock checking service and enquiry service for members - contact us for details.
- Operate a certification scheme for GM-Free businesses.
- Lobby professional bodies and manufacturers of foods and supplements to make their products GM-Free.
- Lobby the Government for a ban of GM food and crops - and meanwhile to label them properly.
- Regular e-mail alerts, a website and a newsletter.

Membership

Membership is open to all food businesses

including wholesalers, retailers, manufacturers and caterers. Members help to support our campaigning work and receive access to a wide range of resources and services to help them to become and be promoted as a GM-Free business.

Membership fees

These are for guidance only. Please contact us if these subscriptions would present difficulties for you. If you can give more this will enable us to do more research, lobbying and provide more information.

- Manufacturers, Distributors, Wholesalers, Retail chains £400pa/£100 per quarter
- Smaller Retailers: £60pa/£15 per quarter
- Individual customers: £20pa/£5 per quarter

Contact GFA

Genetic Food Alert

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www.geneticfoodalert.org.uk

Want to find out more about GM-Issues ?

In each Newsletter we have a look at some of the sources of information about GM and related issues:

www.groundup.org The Groundup Website is the new genetics section of the ASEED Europe website (www.aseed.net). Groundup is an information tool for anti-GM activists and provides many valuable materials in downloadable form (corporate profiles, Cartoon Book, Directory of GM Resistance), plus extensive links to groups, information services, company headquarters etc.

North-South Conflicts in Intellectual Property Rights In another article on the patenting of life forms the well known Indian campaigner Vandana Shiva explains how patents are being used by multinationals to plunder: "...The epidemic of biopiracy is rooted in the old colonial assumption of "Terra Nullius" or the empty earth - if a territory is empty of "white Christians" it is assumed to be empty. Today, the "empty earth" has been replaced by empty life - plants, animals, micro-organisms and humans become "inventions" when their knowledge is discovered by Western science or Western commercial interests, even if this knowledge has existed for centuries in indigenous cultures, and even though life forms are not human inventions. Patents on life are based on biopiracy, either because they involve the theft of nature's creativity and intelligence or the creativity and innovation of other cultures." Download it from the web in Adobe Acrobat format: www.biotech-info.net/north_south.pdf

Just what do we know about GM Crops? This Dutch study *Crops of uncertain nature? Controversies and Knowledge Gaps Concerning Genetically Modified Crops. An Inventory.* identifies flaws and examples of inconclusive research regarding the design, and use of GM crop plants. Controversies and knowledge gaps appear to be present at all levels of biological organisation ranging from the levels of DNA and cellular metabolism to organism and ecosystem levels. This report shows just how

little we know about the science of genetic manipulation, and how much we may have to learn the hard way.

Available from: Plant Research International, P.O. Box 16, 6700 AA Wageningen, Netherlands.

EU GM Legislation Explained The Friends of the Earth Europe biotechnology programme produces a mailout every six weeks which, amongst other things, tracks the development of EU legislation. Current and back issues of this mailout can be viewed at: www.foeurope.org/biotechnology/about.htm

www.geneticfoodalert.org.uk At the risk of being accused of plugging our own website, we once again recommend the GFA site, and in particular the new searchable GFA product database which is currently being further updated to include new details such as those of Nutritional Supplements.

Violence/Non-violence email list Ever asked yourself whether crop 'decontamination' constitutes a violent or a non-violent act? A new international email list has been started "to facilitate a respectful, international dialogue on activist "violence"/ "nonviolence", in which people of differing views can learn from one another, and people of similar views can discuss how to act on them." To join the discussion email:

v-nv-mobilize@egroups.com or visit www.egroups.com/group/v-nv-mobilize.

More info on Golden Rice *Genetically Engineered Pro-vitamin A 'Golden Rice' Reality vs. Fiction* is a document prepared by Greenpeace which effectively contrasts what is known about Golden Rice with the deceitful way in which it is being promoted by pro-GM politicians, scientists, agro-biotech companies and media outlets. www.greenpeace.org/~geneng