



GENETIC ENGINEERING IN CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE: BRINGING SCIENCE INTO THE DIALOGUE



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The **HORROR**
of Genetically
Engineered Food

IT Came from the Grocery Store

You Can't Avoid
It Because It's
NOT LABELED!

GREENPEACE

From the **LABS** of Monsanto to **YOUR TABLE!**
A **NEW LIFE FORM** Released into the World!



Californians for GE-Free Agriculture

Address: http://www.registerlisters.com/calge/signup.htm

CALIFORNIANS FOR GE-FREE AGRICULTURE

Promoting economically, agronomically and ecologically sustainable farming in California.

Join The Action Network of Californians for GE-Free Agriculture

***(required fields)**

*First Name: _____
 Last Name: _____
 Address: _____
 *City: _____
 *State/Province: **California** ▾
 *County: _____ ▾
 *Zip/postalcode: _____
 Phone: _____
 Phone2: _____
 Fax: _____
 *Email: _____

Interests (check all that apply)

<p>I am a (check all that apply):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Farmer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Concerned Consumer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Food Industry Businessperson</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Media Member</p>	<p>I would like to be involved in these ways:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Receiving action alerts by email</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Receiving an electronic newsletter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a donor/Helping with fundraising</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinating activities in my region</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Doing regional outreach (tabling, leafleting)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Organizing on my college campus</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Contacting/monitoring the media</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Contacting/monitoring corporations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Organizing educational events</p>
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(text is limited to 840 letters & spaces = double the area shown)

Special skills & interests

*Telephone Areacode: _____ (enter at least one so we can inform you of local events.)
 Telephone Areacode: _____
 Where did you hear about us: _____
 *Password: _____ (create one to update your listing)

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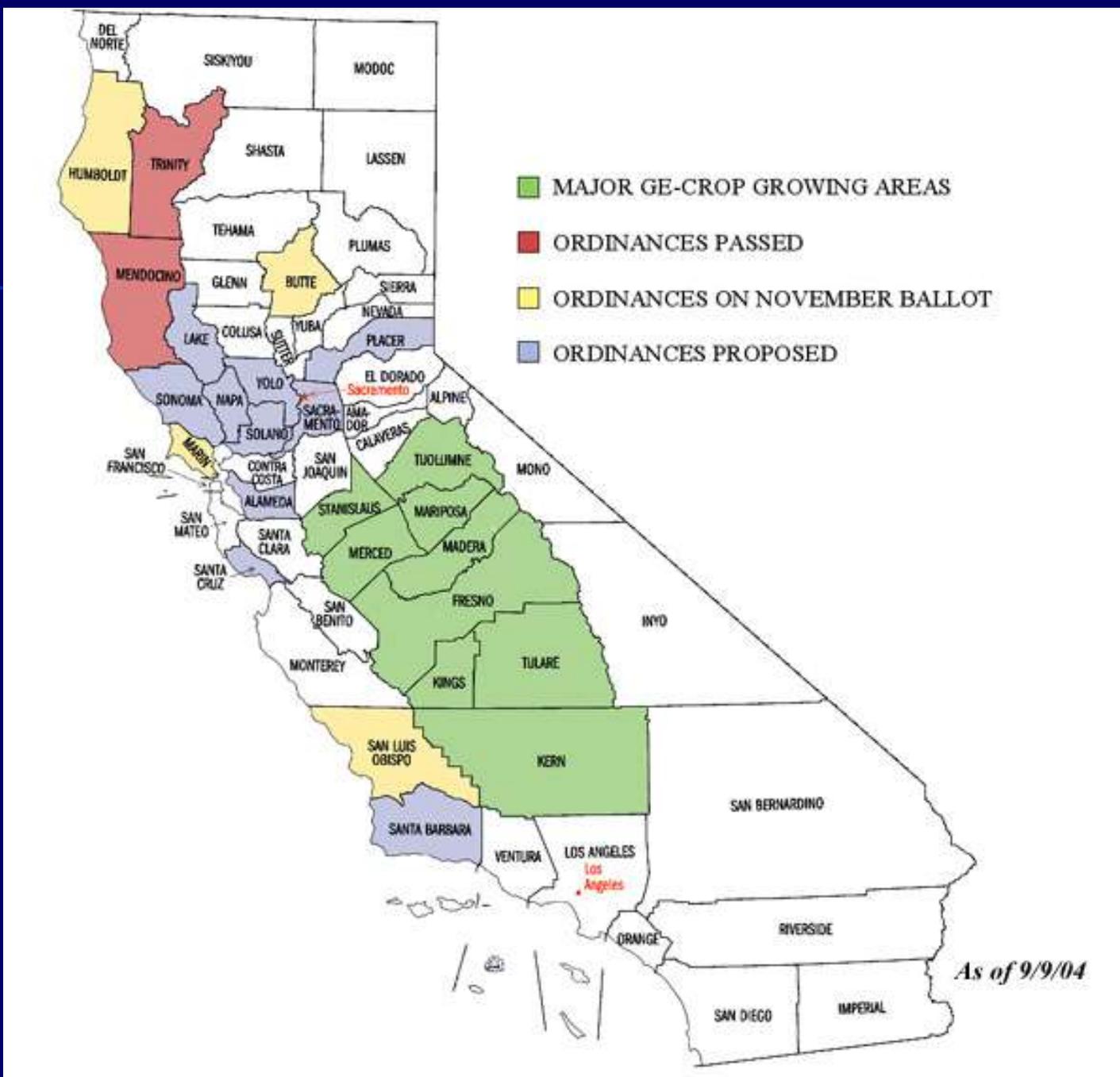
As of 9/9/04



March 2004, Mendocino

-2,579 signatures

- “DNA or deoxyribonucleic acid means a **complex protein** that is present in every cell of an organism and is the a blueprint for the organism’s development”
- “unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to propagate, cultivate, raise, or grow genetically modified organisms in Mendocino County”
- **The ban, as with all county-based initiatives, does not pertain to properties within city limits, or lands managed by State, Tribal and Federal agencies.**
- The initiative identified the County’s Agricultural Commissioner as the enforcing agency and directed his office to develop a protocol to inspect and confiscate any GE plants or animals being produced in the county.
- At the time of the election, there were no GE organisms known to be in production within the borders of Mendocino County.
- Measure passed 56.34% for and 43.66% against. The County has 47,000 voters. Actual numbers that voted was “over 27,000” – so 11880 to 15120 so won by ~ 3,240 votes.



As of 9/9/04



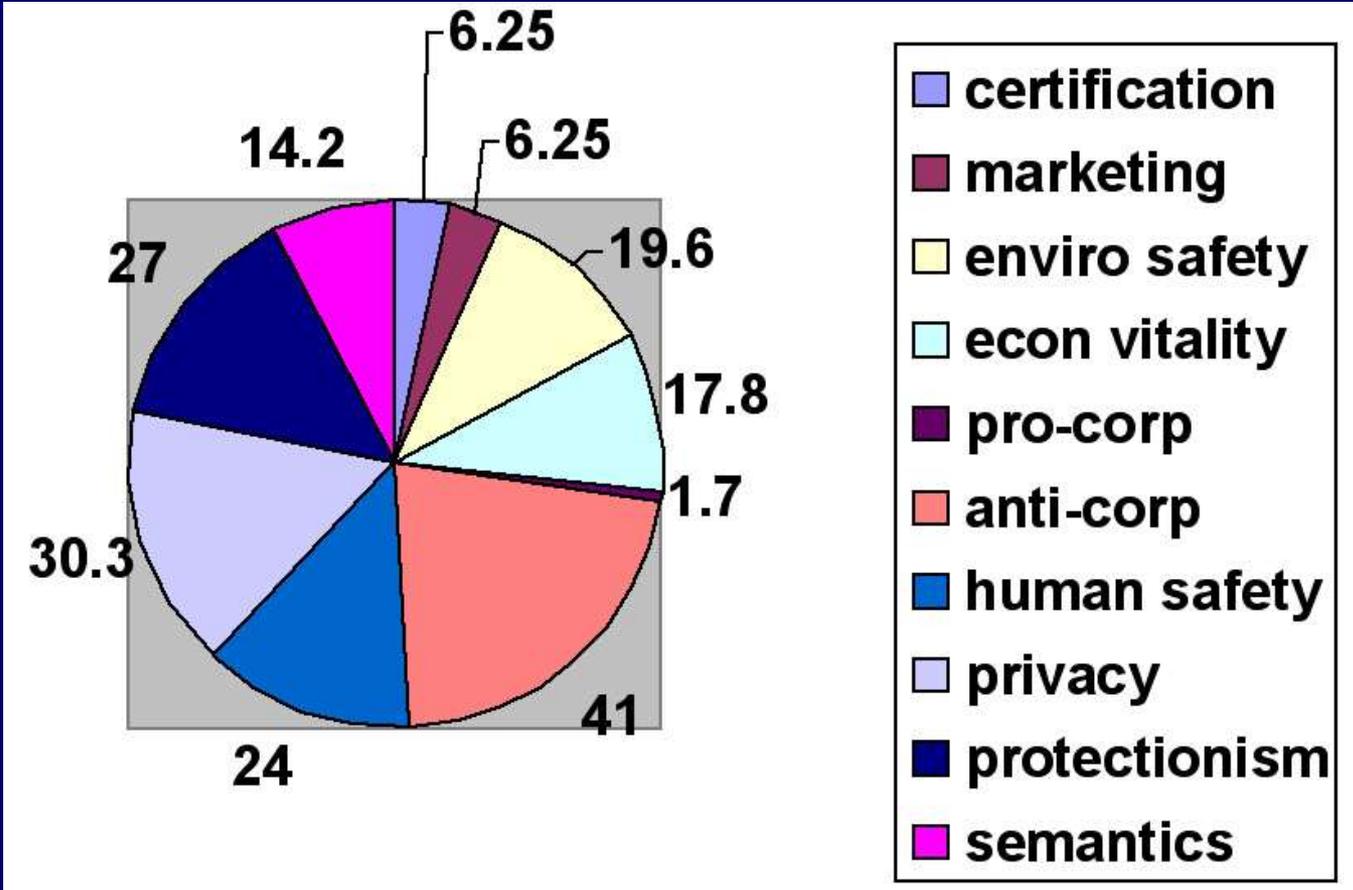
The discourse is being inflamed by alarming assertions and facts that are not derived from, nor supported by, the scientific literature

- *"I will be voting yes on Measure H for many reasons, but mostly because GMOs have affected me personally. When my son was 6 month (sic) old and receiving chemotherapy for leukemia, he was also receiving soy lipids (fat) intravenously because he had lost the ability to eat or drink. The longer he received the lipids, the higher the dose of chemo. When I asked why I was told that the **soybeans used were genetically modified to be "Round Up Ready," they were putting food into my son's veins that could withstand the chemicals they were using to kill the leukemia blood cells**, making the chemo less effective. In order to keep my son alive nutritionally, the higher doses of chemo almost took him away"*

Jenny Shattuck-Hale, Ukiah Daily Journal, 2/20/04.



CHARACTERIZATION OF MEASURE H ELECTION RELATED MATERIALS IN MENDOCINO COUNTY





"After much deliberation I have decided to speak my mind. In the midst of the confusion about GMOs in our food supply I decided to educate myself. I purchased a copy of a book called "Seeds of Deception" by Jeffrey M. Smith. After a certain amount of reading aloud to my family, the information got too scary and we put the book down" Shelley Alameda

Fahy, Ukiah Daily Journal, 2/18/04.

Jeffrey M. Smith





What has been the response of UC Biotechnology workgroup ?

- **Remained neutral !!**
- Not advocates for genetic engineering or its products, but rather advocacy of providing science-based education to allow the public to make an informed decision.
- Focused on providing **objective, science-based information**
- Provided local papers with educational pieces
- Organize and participated in diverse educational forums
 - Employers Council of Mendocino County,
 - Santa Cruz Agricultural Policy Advisory Commission,
 - California Agricultural Commissioners,
 - California Farm Bureau,
 - Lake County Sierra Club,
 - Sacramento Organics,
 - Community Alliance with Family Farmers,
 - Marin Conservation League,
 - CSU San Luis Obispo,
 - CSU Chico,
 - CSU Humboldt.



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Main Menu

Information

- Sales Information-Genetic Engineering in California Agriculture
- ANR Programs On-Air
- UCTV Program Types & Time Slots
- Submit a Proposal
- UCTV Programming Sources
- UCTV Distribution
- UCTV Viewership Profile

Video Production Team

Sales Information-Genetic Engineering in California Agriculture



This program is not available in the ANR Catalog.

This 30-minute videotape or DVD can be purchased by:

- **calling** ANR Communication Services at **530-757-8930**
- order by program number: **ANRUCTV 04-06** and title: **Genetic Engineering in California Agriculture**
- or submit an **online** request. To do this, fill out this [ANRonUCTV Online Order Form](#). This method is unsecure, however, and we suggest you call 530-757-8930 to complete your credit card information.

This 30 minute peer-reviewed video explains the science behind genetic engineering, outlines its uses in food crops and animals, details where and why this technology is being used by California farmers, and examines the science-based concerns pertaining to the use of genetic engineering in agricultural production systems.

If you want to view the movie

mms://STREAM.ucanr.org/Windows Media/UCTV_04_06.asf



If the facts do not support your case, undermine public trust in the source...

- It is noteworthy that during the course of the past year numerous attempts have been made to discredit scientific information provided by UC extension and faculty (unless it supports the prohibition of GE !) by questioning their integrity and objectivity. Critics repeatedly dismiss UC presenters at educational forums as being “**conflicted**”.
- For example, wording regarding participation on an agricultural commission to permit GE crops in Lake county *"Specifically excluded from the Commission are parties with conflicts of interest, including but not limited to Biotech or seed subsidiary companies, **employees of the University of California** or other parties that stand to gain or have gained financially from the development of GMO crops."*



One of the most divisive issues regarding genetic engineering is the suggestion that a choice must be made between either “organic agriculture” OR “genetic engineering”.

“Co-existence is related to the principle that all farmers should be able to cultivate freely the crops of their choice using the production system they prefer. The general concept of co-existence is already well established in California agriculture with conventional, organic, and integrated pest management systems working successfully together.”



Co-existence of Diverse Production Systems in California Agriculture: Development of Science-based Educational Materials and Outreach Programs.

“to develop materials designed to facilitate discussion on some of the science-based concerns regarding the use of genetic engineering in agriculture, and that detail best management practices that can be used to minimize the adventitious presence of unwanted material and effectively enable the co-existence of different production systems to ensure the sustainability and viability of all production systems in California agriculture.”



Questions ?

As long as groups polarize the issue of genetic engineering into “all is permitted” or “nothing is permitted”, rational social progress on the issue is impossible. Dualism, or dilemma thinking (right versus wrong), is the enemy of compromise and the archenemy of the middle way.