

The GM 'Dirty Dozen'

12 reasons to not research, cultivate or consume genetically modified crops

1. GM has yet to demonstrate its potential to alleviate poverty [1], while non-GM farming practices have [2]
2. GM and intensive, conventional agriculture crops do not consistently provide either improved yields, or reduced agricultural (including energy) inputs [1, 3, 4]
3. Nearly all major developments in improving yields, drought resistance, insect or pathogen resistance, even in recent years, have been the result of non-GM plant breeding techniques [1, 5]
4. There are no benefits that have yet to be attributed to commercial GM crops that have not already been attributed to non-GM crops (e.g. insect or herbicide resistance, drought or heat tolerance, nutritional enhancement) [5]
5. GM crops may pose serious, unexpected and unpredictable long-term risks to human health and the environment [6, 7]
6. GM threatens the biodiversity and the viability of wild plant and animal species [7]
7. GM crops may generate 'superweeds' and 'superpests' [8, 9, 10, 11, 12]
8. GM places the control of the world's staple crops in the hands of a few corporations [1]
9. GM threatens the viability of organic farming systems [13, 14, 15]
10. 'Co-existence' of GM and non-GM agriculture is untenable [14, 15, 16]
11. Safety assessments used for approving GM cultivation are inadequate [17, 18]
12. The public has demonstrated a consistent rejection of GM crop technology and consumes it usually only when it is unaware of its presence [19, 20, 21].

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