



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

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** [v]
 *County: [v]
 *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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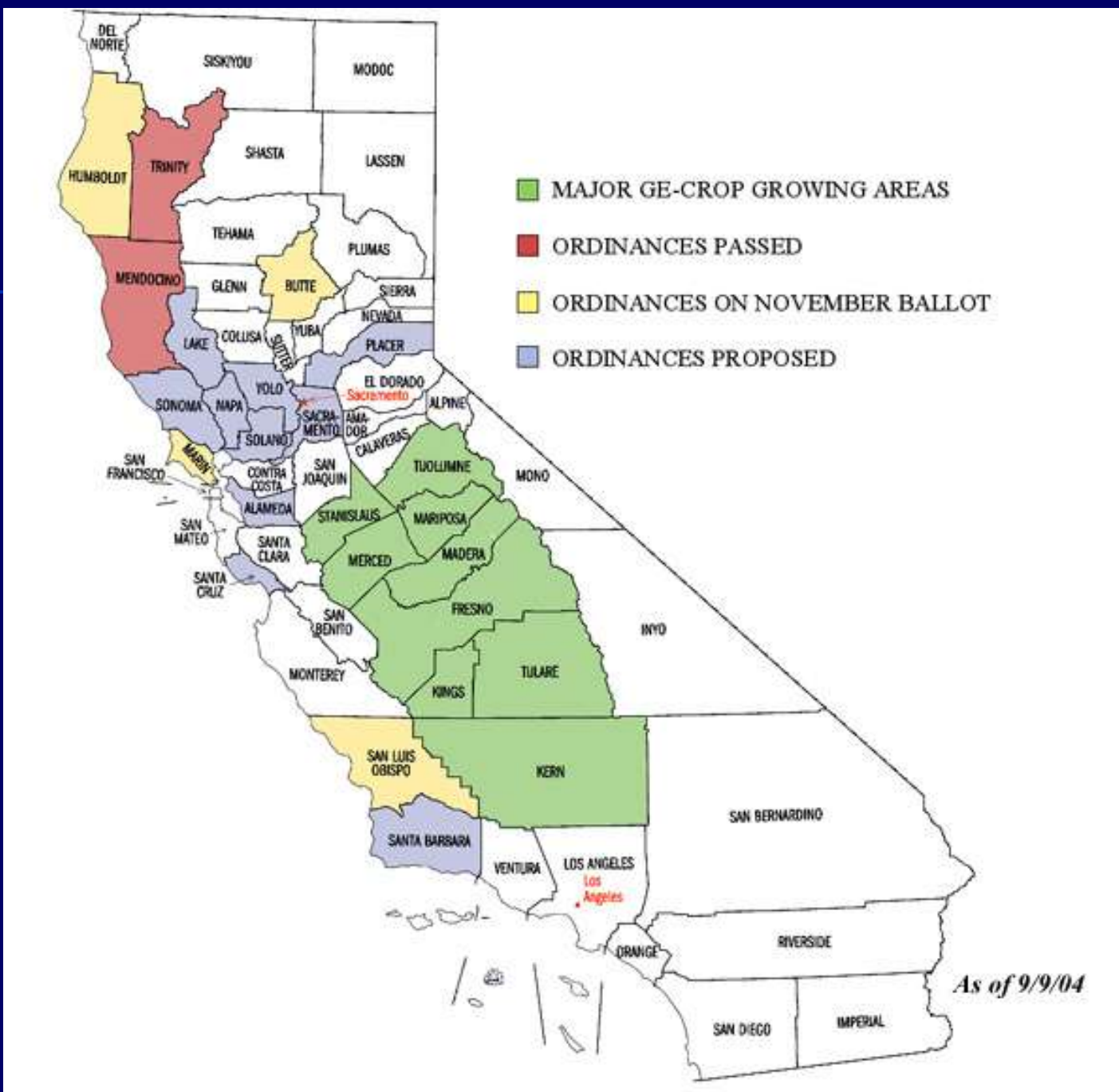
(text is limited to 840 letters & spaces = double the area shown)

Special skills & interests

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

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As of 9/9/04

Letters from our readers
Scientist argument ludicrous
 To the Editor:
 The emphasis in the article regarding the loss or retention of organic certification of an organic crop is contaminated with GMO pollen is ludicrous. I don't want to see GMOs in my food. I don't want to see anything contaminated with GMO pollen. I should be certified organic, per the COO. It should be organic and that does not include a vegetable or fruit that has been genetically modified. Heck, my own organic tomatoes from last year would no longer be GMO pollen. I saved from organic tomatoes from last year would no longer be organic if exposed to GMO pollen drift. Heck, the corporate giant doing it, organic if exposed to GMO pollen drift. Heck, the corporate giant doing it, organic if exposed to GMO pollen drift. Heck, the corporate giant doing it, organic if exposed to GMO pollen drift.

Remember there are two sides to every story
 In today's forum pages readers will find more opinions about the controversial Measure H. The Daily Journal has not taken a position on the measure yet but we are determined to provide as much opinion and information as we can to our readers. Hence, today you will find lots of that. We also want to tolerate something that perhaps some of you might not like. We will present both sides. That's our job. You will read in these pages complaints that we wrote a story about the Friday, Jan. 16 meeting on the Employers Council of Mendocino County where Measure H was discussed. Letters and calls come in every day about the controversy. Many stories are submitted to the paper and quoting people from both sides. Our job is to present both sides. For that we will help.

We endorse Measure H!



CRAIG BELL



KATRINA FREY



DR. LUOTO



TONY CRAVER

YES on Measure H

- Protect our health!
- Protect our farmers!
- Protect our economy!
- Protect our environment!
- Protect our private property!

Keep Mendocino County GMO FREE!

Join us!

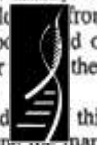
GMO initiative heads to ballot
 By GLENDA ANDERSON
 The Daily Journal
 County supervisors on Tuesday unanimously voted to place on the March ballot an initiative that would prohibit the growing of genetically modified organisms in Mendocino County. Supervisors' only other choices were to turn the initiative as a county ordinance or to send it for further study because signature gatherers had not gathered enough names to qualify the measure.

Employers hear from scientists on GMOs
 By MARK HEDGES
 The Daily Journal
 When it comes to the topic of Measure H, there appears to be a divide that is the result of a controversy of organic vs. non-organic. At a lecture on Friday afternoon at the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors meeting at O. Lemaux, a UC Extension specialist from the Department of Plant and Microbial Biology, gave an overview of biotechnology in plants. He presented to the voters in Measure H. Lemaux said the product could still be sold. But a second decision by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation for California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) Organic Commission for the accreditation for the

Mendocino considers ban of genetically engineered plants
 NORTH COAST
 The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday voted to place on the March ballot an initiative that would prohibit the growing of genetically modified organisms in Mendocino County. Supervisors' only other choices were to turn the initiative as a county ordinance or to send it for further study because signature gatherers had not gathered enough names to qualify the measure.

Measure H opponents see GMO makers
 To the Editor:
 Recently the Daily Journal reported on the lawsuit filed against the language of the ballot initiative in support of Measure H, the voter initiative to prohibit GMO plants in Mendocino County. The lawsuit was filed by the California Plant Health Association - the name seems benign, after all, who is not in favor of plant health? The Journal reports that the name of this group is "Plant Health Association" and not all plants like GMOs.

GMO issue misunderstood
 To the Editor:
 The first question I must ask of Marie White article on GMOs, is where is the list of corporations and organizations that have agreed that the GMO petition should be rescinded? Mendocino Organic Network can provide a corresponding list of Mendocino County citizens who support the GMO petition. (www.mendocinorganicnetwork.com)
 Second, the petition does not prohibit plants, animals, fish, fire retardant, native wines, apple juice, beer, coffee, etc. If you wish to purchase genetically modified foods available in your supermarket, you are free to do so. What the petition does prohibit is the growing of live genetically modified organisms that live genetically other means can cross-pollinate with natural grapevines and other non-GMO food crops and destroy their marketability, and subject those who consume these crops to uncontrolled health risks and seriously disrupt the local ecosystem. This does not require the label. This is not a health risk and exempt from the labeling requirements for the State of California.





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.





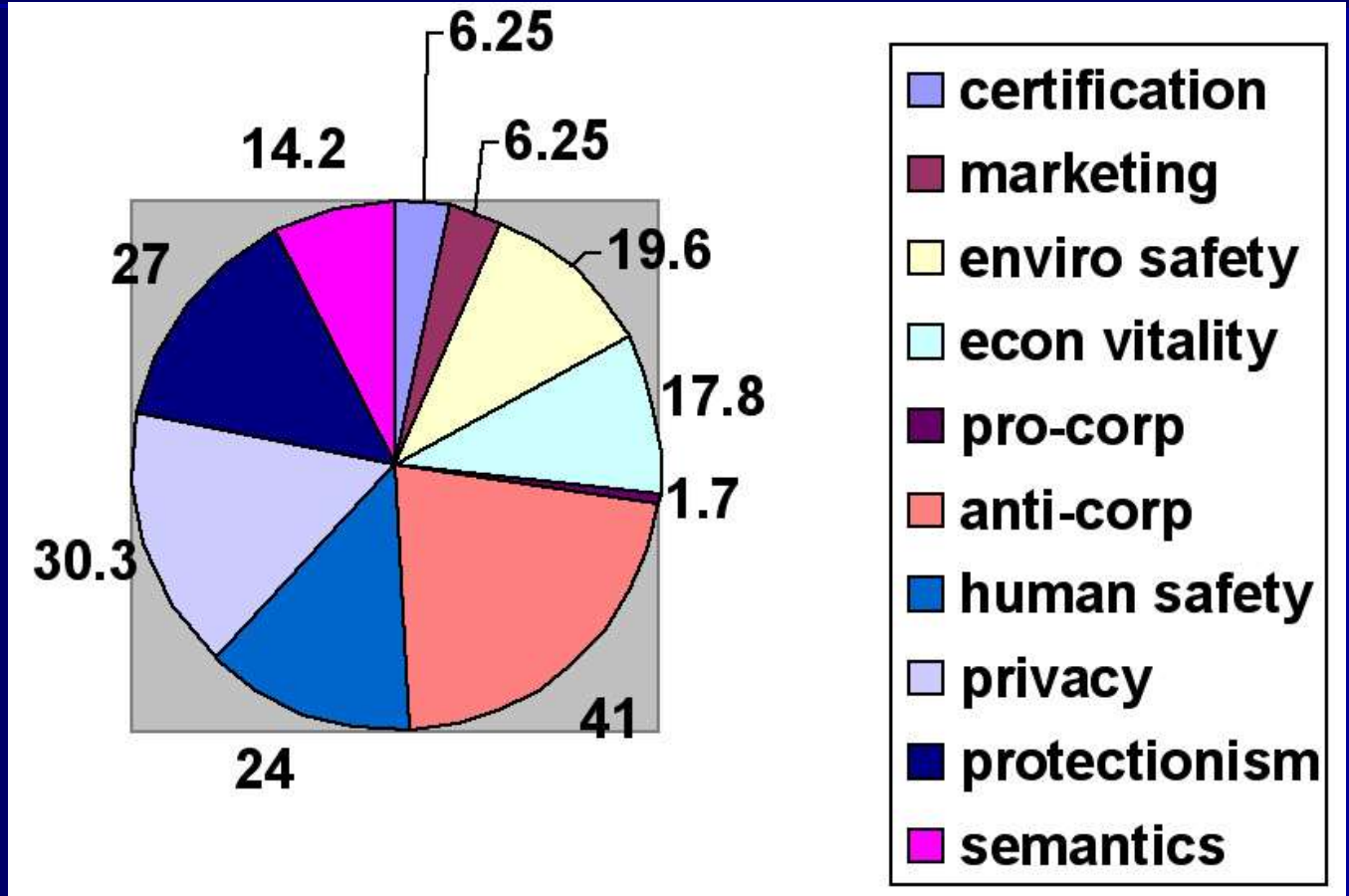
The discourse is being inflamed by alarming assertions and facts that are not derived from, nor supported by, the scientific literature

- *"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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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.