

Rice

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Sharratt<info@cban.ca><p>Rice is daily food for half of the world's population. Genetically engineered (GE) rice is a threat to our health, our agriculture and our biodiversity.</p><p>No GE rice is grown commercially anywhere in the world.</p><p>But Bayer, the German chemical giant, has genetically manipulated rice to withstand higher doses of the pesticide glufosinate, which is considered to be so dangerous to humans and the environment that it will soon be banned from Europe.</p><h4>Golden Rice (Vitamin A Rice)</h4><p>Genetically Engineered? Golden? rice has been in development for almost 20 years and is still being tested. The GM rice is aimed to address Vitamin A deficiency.Read the report from Greenpeace "Golden rice's slack of lustre".</p><p>Scientists Denounce "Unethical" Use Of Children in GM Feeding Trials</p><p>March 2009</p><p>It has been brought to light that three clinical experiments are being conducted which involve the feeding of genetically modified Golden Rice to human subjects (adults and children).</p><p>The feeding trials are being conducted by the Tufts University School of Medicine (US) and information released on the US Clinical Trials website indicates that Chinese children suffering from varying degrees of Vitamin A deficiency have been used in the feeding trials.</p><p>However, a group of senior scientists/academics strongly condemn the experiments saying that the conduct is a severe breach of medical ethics and have called for these GM feeding experiments to be terminated immediately. The three projects are said to have breached the Nuremberg Code/medical ethics code on a number of counts, such as the use of very young children for the experiments.</p><p>They also pointed out that the Golden Rice is an untested and unapproved GM variety which may well harm health rather than improve it. This rice is engineered to overproduce beta-carotene, and there is an extensive medical literature showing that retinoids that can be derived from beta-carotene are both toxic and may cause birth defects. As such, the concerned scientists believe the use of human subjects (especially children) for the feeding experiments is completely unacceptable and should be stopped.</p><p>Click here to read the letter from the scientists.</p><p>Click here to read an article detailing the concerns</p>