

Monsanto

Author: Lucy

Sharratt<info@cban.ca><aname="eztoc2349_1" id="eztoc2349_1"><h2>Support Bill C-

474</h2><p>June/July 2010Bill C-474 needs your support!</p><div class="object-right"><div class="content-view-embedded-media"><div class="class-image"><div class="attribute-image"><p></p></div></div></div></div><p>If the Bill is passed it would stop Monsanto's GE wheat and GE alfalfa.</p><p>?If you did a comparison between farmer profits since GMOs have come in and Monsanto profits, I can tell you who's coming out the winner. It's Monsanto, big time, and I don't think they give a damn whether we make money or go broke at the bottom of the line. ?</p>

Wayne Easter, Liberal Agriculture Critic, June 7, 2010, House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, Hearing on Bill C-474.And yet the Liberal Party does not support Bill C-

474. Write today!</p><aname="eztoc2349_2" id="eztoc2349_2"><h2>Haiti's Farmers Reject Monsanto's Seed "Donation"</h2><p>10,000 Haitian peasant farmers marched Friday June 4, 2010 to protest Monsanto's donation of hybrid corn and vegetable seeds.</p><div class="object-

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caption" style="width:200px"><p>10,000 farmers in Haiti march, June 4, 2010</p></div></div></div></div><p><a href="/Resources/Tools/Photos-and-Graphics/Haitian-Farmers-Protest-Monsanto-s-Seed-Donation-June-4-

2010" target="_self">Click here to see photos from the march in Haiti and the solidarity action in Montreal.</p><p>The farmers asked groups around the world to ?Struggle Against Monsanto and its associates.

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caption" style="width:132px"><p>Order your button today!</p></div></div></div></div>Press Release June 3<a href="/Press/Press-Releases/Haitian-Farmers-Say-Burn-Monsanto-s-

Seeds"target="_self">HaitianFarmersSay?BurnMonsanto?sSeeds?:CanadiangroupssupportHaitia
nrejectionofMonsanto?sseeddonation<a href="/Resources/Topics/Monsanto/Call-for-Solidarity-

Actions"target="_self">ReadthecallforsolidarityfromtheHaitianpeasantmovement<a href="http://www.truthout.org/haitian-farmers-commit-burning-monsanto-hybrid-

seeds59616"target="_self">ReadthearticleaboutwhatHaiti'speasantleadersaresaying

ReadwhatMonsantosaysabouttheir"donation".<aname="eztoc2349_3" id="eztoc2349_3"><h2>TakeAction</h2><p>New! Youcannoworderyour"StopMonsanto&qu

ot;buttons!Foryourcharitabledonationof\$25youcanorder"StopMonsanto"buttons.Orderb
ycontactingLucySharrattcoordinator@cban.ca6132412267ext6orm

akeyourdonationrightnow!</p><aname="eztoc2349_4" id="eztoc2349_4"><h2>Monsanto
QuickFacts</h2><p>Monsanto</p><p>?isthelargestseedcompanyintheworld(accountedfor23%oft

heworld?scommercialseedmarketin2007).(ETCGroup)
?Ownstheeedplantedonapproximatel
y90%oftheGECropacresintheworld
?sellsthetop-sellingglobalherbicideRoundup(glyphosate).<b

r/>?OwnsthepatentandresearchonTerminatorotechnology(MonsantoboughtDelta&PineLandin2
006)-

Terminatorseedsaregeneticallyengineeredtobesterileafterfirstharvesttostopfarmersfromsavingandr
eusingseed.
?Monsantonowaccountsforover57%oftheUScottonseedmarket.(ETCGroup)</p><

aname="eztoc2350_1" id="eztoc2350_1"><h2>LatestNewsonMonsanto</h2><p>July2010:Mo
nsantojoinsBASForGMwheatdevelopment: MonsantoandBASFPlantScienceareexpandingjo

intbiotechdevelopmentworkintowheat,potentiallybringingGMwheattomarket--
atleast10yearsfromnow.Thecompaniessaytheyplantto"initiallyfocusondevelopingbiotechprodu

ctsfortheNorthAmericanandAustralianmarkets."Thejointannouncementcomesontheheelsofas
eparateplanannouncedbySyngentaandtheInternationalMaizeandWheatImprovementCenter(CIMM

YT)inApriltoworktowardbiotechwheat.</p><p>May172010: Monsanto plantinTheNetherlandsshutdo
wnbyactivists</p><divclass="object-right"><divclass="content-view-

embeddedmedia"><divclass="class-image"><divclass="attribute-
image"><p><imgsrc="/var/cban/storage/images/media/images/monsanto-shut-down-in-

netherlands/5202-1-eng-CA/Monsanto-shut-down-in-
Netherlands_medium.jpg"width="200"height="133"style="border:0px;"alt="MonsantoshutdowninN

etherlands" title="MonsantoshutdowninNetherlands"/></p></div></div></div><p>Actiongrou
p"RoundUpMonsanto"successfullyshutdownthemainMonsantoplantintheNetherlands,fo

rmallyDeRuiterSeeds.Fortypeoplechainedthemselves totheentrancegateatthewakeofdayandpreven

tedpersonelfromenteringtheofficebuildingsandgreenhouses.ThierryBoyer,headofMonsanto'sEuro
peanvegetabledivision,contactedhissuperiorsanddecidednottopresscharges.Asaresultthepolicewill

notinterfere."Thecompanywillbeeffectivelyclosedfortheday",thepolicechiefinchargeconfi

rmed.350peopleareemployedattheplant.Manyemployeeswelcomedtheactionandsaidtheywerenoth
appywiththetakeoverofDeRuiterSeedsbyMonsantoin2008.DeRuiterSeedsisthethirdDutchvegetable

seedcompanythatwasboughtupbyMonsanto.Withtheseacquisitionsthecompanyaimstomonopoliset
hevegetableseedmarket.</p><p>Banneronthegatesandonthemonsantologoonthepremisessaid:<

br/>"Monopolyonfoodandtoxicagriculture-
theworldaccordingtoMonsanto"and"Imagine...agriculturewithoutpoisonandwithoutGMO'

s-aworldwithoutMonsanto".</p><p>April2010: Monsanto facesfarmerresistancetohighprices-
Companyearningsdisappoint,scrapstargettodoubleprofitsin5years.Monsanto'ssecondquart

erearningsdidnotmatchtheirprojections,thoughthecompanyisstillrobust(somewereexpectingworsere
sults).Therewasa19%dropinfiscalsecondquarterearnings.OneequitiesanalystreferredtoMonsanto'sa

rroganceasitsambitiousgrowthprojectionswereunrealistic.Farmersarerefusingtopaythenewhighprice
forMonsanto'seighttraitGECorn<a href="/Resources/Topics/GE-Crops-and-Foods-On-the-

Market/Corn"target="_self">"SmartStax"@\$75/bag.Farmersarealsorefusingtopayh
ighpricesforRoundupReady2soy.Monsanto'sresultshavebeeneffectedbythefactthattheirclaimstohig

heryieldsarenotsubstantiatedwiththird-
partydata.MonsantoisnowreducingitspricesincludingheavilydiscountingSmartStax.Monsantocallsthi

s"penetrationpricing"becauseitisdesignedtopenetratethemarket-
gainmarketshare.</p><p>March2010:<a href="http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-03-

10/monsanto-7-state-probe-threatens-profit-from-93-soybean-
share.html"target="_self">SevenUSStateAttorneysGeneralInvestigatingMonsanto'sMonopolyPracti

ces(BusinessWeek, March 10, 2010) /a></p><p>March 2010:Monsanto Admits Bt Cotton has Failed in India For the first time anywhere in the world, biotech agriculture giant Monsanto has admitted that insects have developed resistance to its Bt (insect resistant) cotton crop. Evidence was observed by Monsanto from Gujarat province.</p><p>March 2010: A ruling in the US that prohibits the planting of GE alfalfa in that country may soon be overturned. In 2007 a judge ruled that the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) approval of GE alfalfa was illegal and ordered the Department to conduct an environmental risk assessment to look into farmer concerns about contamination.Click here for information about Canadian action and updates.</p><p>February 2010: India has halted the commercial cultivation of what would have been its first GE vegetable crop- eggplant. Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh said more studies were needed to ensure GE aubergines were safe for consumers and the environment. The GE vegetable received approval from government scientists in 2009 but opposition was widespread: "Public sentiment is negative. It is my duty to adopt a cautious, precautionary, principle-based approach," Minister Ramesh said.</p><p>November 2009: Monsanto has sued four Ontario farmers for saving and reusing Monsanto's patented herbicide tolerant soybeans called Roundup Ready. Not only did the courts rule that the farmers must pay Monsanto any profits they derived from growing the soybeans, they must also pay a significant portion of Monsanto's costs for taking them to court-- amounts ranging from \$9,000 to \$63,000 per individual. As well, the four farmers are among the first to be confronted with Monsanto's new "Violator Exclusion Policy". They will be placed on an "Unauthorized Grower List" and denied all access to Monsanto's current and future technologies forever. Monsanto calls this "Seed Piracy"-Click here to see Monsanto's Seed Piracy Newsletter!</p><p>July 15, 2009: Monsanto has invested in developing new GM wheat. Monsanto bought West Bred, a Montana company specializing in wheat germplasm. Monsanto stated they will now develop new GM wheat varieties. Monsanto's announcement follows the May statement from industry groups in Australia, Canada and the US stating that they would work together to synchronize commercialization in the three countries.Join the Global Rejection counterstatement-sign on here!</p><p>May 2009: Monsanto says it expects its U.S. gross profit from sales of seeds and traits to double by 2012 from the 2008 level, while its international businesses should grow by 85 percent. Monsanto says it will launch a "high impact technology product" every one to two years, with the goal that each project will deliver more than \$300 million in gross revenue opportunities by 2020 in the country where it is launched.Check the story.</p><p><h3>Monsanto's Reach:</h3><p>Agrofuels Monsanto now talks about whether world's growing food, feed, fiber, and fuel needs? (Annual Report 2007). Monsanto stands to gain substantially from the rush to produce fuels from our agricultural base-biofuels (agrofuels)- because the acreage of GE crops could now be expanded to grow fuels as well as food. Monsanto's major GE crops of corn, canola and soy are all used for ethanol or biodiesel in the current so-called "first generation" biofuels. To counter the public relations problem of the world food crisis and the problem of food vs fuel? Monsanto with Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), DuPont, John Deere (Deere and Company) and the Renewable Fuels Association had set up a new lobby group called the ?Alliance for Abundant Food and Energy. ? Monsanto is looking towards sowing these seeds for food and fuel.Click here for more information on agrofuels.</p><p>Bovine Growth Hormone In August 2008 Monsanto sold its controversial and widely rejected recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH), a genetically engineered veterinary drug designed to boost milk production in dairy cows, to pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly. Rejected in 1999 by regulatory agencies in Canada, BGH is still used in the United States.
Click here to read the book chapter about what happened in Canada to BGH.</p><p>Patents Monsanto owns patents on its genetic sequences and enforces its patent rights over these traits by suing farmers it believes have saved and used its seeds without authorization. When farmers buy Monsanto's seeds they must sign a Technology Use Agreement?, a contract with Monsanto whereby

armers agree not to save Monsanto's seed for planting again. Monsanto now owns Terminator technology which would be the perfect tool for the corporation to protect its patents, without the bad public relations of suing farmers (see below). [Click here to see an example of a Technology Use Agreement.](http://www.percyschmeiser.com/TUA.htm) [Click here to see Vandana Shiva describe what patents mean to Monsanto.](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah-ZeN_ghro) [Click here to read the report Monsanto vs Farmers from the Center for Food Safety.](http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/Monsantovsusfarmersreport.cfm) [Click here to see Percy Schmeiser's website.](http://www.percyschmeiser.com)

Terminator Seeds Terminator seeds are genetically engineered to be sterile after the first harvest in order to prevent farmers from saving and reusing seed. The technology would be the perfect tool for Monsanto to protect its intellectual property without costly legal action against farmers. Monsanto recently bought the original patent on Terminator as well as the most advanced research when it purchased the cotton and soybean seed company Delta & Pine Land. In 1999, when Monsanto was first preparing to buy Delta & Pine Land, the Rockefeller Foundation wrote a letter to Monsanto pleading the company to disavow Terminator. Monsanto responded with a pledge never to commercialize Terminator. However, Monsanto never pledged to stop research. The technology has never been field tested or commercialized but when Monsanto bought Delta & Pine Land in 2007, the company had the most advanced Terminator research in the world including greenhouse tests in the US. Due to international protest, a moratorium on Terminator seed field testing and commercial use was established at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in 2000, and strengthened in 2006. For detail on Terminator [click here to see the website of the International Ban Terminator Campaign.](http://www.banterminator.org)

Vegetables Though fruits and vegetables remain, for the most part, free of genetic engineering (some GE squash and papaya varieties have been commercialized), Monsanto now owns a large part of the fruit and vegetable seed market. In 2005 Monsanto bought fruit and vegetable company [Seminis](http://www.seminis.com/), giving Monsanto control over more than 30 percent of the North American vegetable seed market, as well as more than 20 percent of the world's tomato seed market and more than 30 percent of the global hot pepper seed market. (Monsanto To Buy Vegetable Seed Company, Carey Gillam, Reuters, April 1, 2008) Seminis had already developed a genetically engineered virus resistant squash (their online catalogue includes GE varieties of yellow crookneck and straightneck, zucchini). Seminis' squash is currently the only GE vegetable on the market. In 2007 Monsanto formed the International Seed Group, a holding company to invest in vegetable and fruit seed businesses. And in early 2008 Monsanto bought De Ruiter Seeds Group BV for \$860 million. The company sells tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and other produce that grow in greenhouses.

[Combat Monsanto: Building a World Free From Monsanto](http://www.combat-monsanto.co.uk/) - new website dedicated to exposing Monsanto

[Monsanto's 7 Deadly Sins, Greenpeace](http://www.greenpeace.org/international/press/reports/7-deadly-sins)

[New Film: The World According to Monsanto](/Resources/Tools/Films)