

# Stop Enviropig?

Author: Lucy Sharratt<info@cban.ca><p><a href="/Resources/Topics/Enviropig/Write-the-Minister-of-Health-Stop-Enviropig" target="\_self">Write to the Minister of Health instantly by clicking here!</a></p><p><b>New! June 2010:</b><a href="http://www.commonground.ca/iss/227/cg227\_enviropig.shtml" target="\_self">"Enviropig?: Apiggyou hopetonevermeetatthemarket", CommonGround magazine, by Lucy Sharratt, June 2010.</a></p><p><b>This so-called "Enviropig?" could soon be the first genetically modified (GM) (also called genetically engineered or GE) food animal on the market.</b></p><div class="object-right"><div class="content-view-embedded-media"><div class="class-image"><div class="attribute-image"><p><a href="/Resources/Topics/Enviropig/Write-the-Minister-of-Health-Stop-Enviropig" target="\_self"></a></p></div></div></div></div><p>Enviropig? is the trademarked industry name for a pig that has been genetically engineered to excrete less phosphorus in its feces. Enviropig? was developed by researchers at the University of Guelph in Ontario.</p><a name="eztoc4501\_1" id="eztoc4501\_1"></a><h2>Take Action</h2><ul><li><a href="/Resources/Topics/Enviropig/Write-the-Minister-of-Health-Stop-Enviropig" target="\_self">Write to the Minister of Health instantly by clicking here.</a></li><li><a href="/Resources/Topics/Enviropig/Join-the-Stop-Enviropig-Campaign" target="\_self">Join the Campaign: Sign on here to participate, share your ideas and get the latest news.</a></li><li><a href="/Resources/Topics/Enviropig/Action-Alert-Stop-Enviropig-!-Take-Action-to-stop-GM-Animals-in-Canada" target="\_self">Circulate the action alert to your networks</a> - feel free to add your own introduction but please do not edit the alert itself (this action will continue through the summer).</li><li><a href="/donate" target="\_self">Donate today to support the campaign.</a></li></ul><a name="eztoc4501\_2" id="eztoc4501\_2"></a><h2>Summary</h2><p>The goal of the GM Enviropig? is to provide intensive livestock operations (factory farms) with a product to reduce the amount of pollutant phosphorus they produce. Phosphorus from animal manure is a nutrient for plants that becomes a pollutant if there is too much of it for crops to absorb, and the excess runs off into streams and lakes. Researchers claim that the feces from Enviropig? could contain 30 to 70.7% less phosphorus.</p><p>Enviropig? is designed to reduce the amount of phosphorus coming from the pig themselves, so that factory farms do not have to pay for other measures such as reducing the number of pigs they raise in one place, changing feeding ingredients, trucking liquid manure longer distances, dry composting manure, or expanding the area of land for spreading manure.</p><p>Enviropig? is genetically engineered to produce the enzyme *phytase* in its salivary gland to enable more effective digestion of phytate, the form of phosphorus found in pig feeding ingredients like corn and soybeans. Scientists inserted a transgene sequence that includes an *E-coli* bacteriophage gene and a mouse promoter gene sequence.</p><p>In February 2010, Environment Canada granted approval to the University of Guelph for the reproduction and exportation of Enviropig?. He also granted approval for human consumption at any time.</p><a name="eztoc4501\_3" id="eztoc4501\_3"></a><h2>Background Information</h2><p><a href="/Resources/Topics/Enviropig/Enviropig-Background" target="\_self">Click here to read full background on Enviropig?</a></p><ul><li>What is Enviropig?</li><li>Is Enviropig? An Environmental Solution?</li><li>Who "Created" and Owns Enviropig?</li><li>Is Enviropig? Safe?</li><li>When will Enviropig? be on the market?</li><li>Do Farmers Need Enviropig?</li></ul><p><b>Coming soon:</b></p><div class="object-left"><div class="content-view-embedded-media"><div class="class-image"><div class="attribute-image"><p></p></div></div></div></div><ul><li>pdf background paper</li><li>action flyer</li><li>articles and editorials</li></ul><a name="eztoc4501\_4" id="eztoc4501\_4"></a><h2>More Information</h2><p><b>New! June 2010:</b><a href="http://www.commonground.ca/iss/227/cg227\_enviropig.shtml" target="\_self">"Enviropig?: Apiggyou hopetonevermeetatthemarket", CommonGround magazine, by Lucy Sharratt, June 2010.</a></p><p><b>The National Farmers Union of Ontario passed a resolution against Enviropig at their March 20, 2010 AGM: "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the nFU oppose the commercial production of the Enviropig in Canada and request that Ontario Pork and OM

AFRA withdraws support for the EnviroPig and UofGuelph shutdown the project immediately. Further, that N FU-

Request that these financial resources be redirected to research that fits the real needs of hog producers in Ontario and Canada." <a href="/Resources/Topics/EnviroPig/National-Farmers-Union-Ontario-March-2010-Resolution" target="\_self">Read the full resolution here.</a></p><p><a href="http://www.beyondfactoryfarming.org" target="\_self">Beyond Factory Farming</a></p><p><a href="http://www.uoguelph.ca/enviropig/" target="\_self">University of Guelph, EnviroPig homepage</a></p><p>The campaign to Stop EnviroPig? is coordinated by the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network (CBAN) in partnership with <a href="http://www.beyondfactoryfarming.org" target="\_self">Beyond Factory Farming (BFF)</a>. **Become part of the campaign:** <a href="/Resources/Topics/EnviroPig/Join-the-Stop-EnviroPig-Campaign" target="\_self">sign up here to contribute your ideas and subscribe for updates on EnviroPig?.</a></p>