

Letter from Greenpeace to CSIRO appears to be plagiarized from another, similar letter.

Red = Identical words and order

Purple = Identical words, altered order

Letter Written by Greenpeace to CSIRO protesting GE lower-glycemic index Wheat.	Letter Written by GM Free CYMRU to Tufts University protesting Golden Rice
<p>Open letter from scientists and doctors around the world regarding human feeding trials of genetically modified wheat in Australia</p> <p>Dear Dr. Megan Clark, Chief Executive CSIRO,</p> <p>We are writing to express our unequivocal denunciation of the experiments being conducted by your colleagues that involve feeding genetically modified (GM) wheat to human subjects. We are all senior scientists/academics with a professional interest in the health and environmental effects of</p>	<p>TUFTS UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN GOLDEN RICE FEEDING TRIALS</p> <p>OPEN LETTER from GM Free Cymru</p> <p>This formal letter of protest relating to a severe breach of medical ethics has been sent by 22 senior scientists to the Tufts University School of Medicine, together with a call for these GM feeding experiments to be terminated immediately.</p> <p>Professor Robert Russell, Professor Emeritus,</p> <p>Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy Tufts University School of Medicine</p> <p>711 Washington Street Boston, MA 02111-1524</p> <p>Email: rob.russell@tufts.edu</p> <p>Dear Professor Russell,</p> <p>TUFTS UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN GOLDEN RICE FEEDING TRIALS</p> <p>We are writing to express our shock and unequivocal denunciation of the experiments being conducted by your colleagues which involve the feeding of genetically modified Golden Rice to human subjects (adults and children.) We are all senior scientists / academics with a professional interest in the health and environmental effects of GMOs.</p>

GMOs. We refer to the trials described on the

website of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR):

- DIR 093 - Limited and controlled release of wheat and barley genetically modified for altered grain starch composition

The biological and biochemical characterisation of the GM wheat being used in these experiments is inadequately described in the publicly available literature. Much of the information required to conduct adequate pre-clinical evaluation is withheld on the basis that it is 'confidential commercial information'.

Genetically modified products have not been shown to be distinctive, uniform and stable over time. There is a large body of evidence that shows that GM crop / food production is highly prone to inadvertent and unpredictable pleiotropic effects, which can result in health damaging effects when GM food products are fed to animals (Pusztai and Bardocz, 2006; Schubert, 2008; Dona and

We refer to three trials described on the US Clinical Trials web site:

1. Project NCT 00680355.(10) Bioavailability of Golden Rice Carotenoids in Humans.
<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/record/NCT00680355?term=golden+rice&rank=1>
2. Project NCT 00082420. Retinol Equivalence of Plant Carotenoids in Children.
<http://clinicaltrials.gov/archive/NCT00082420>
3. Project NCT 00680212. Vitamin A Equivalence of Plant Carotenoids in Children.
<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/record/NCT00680212?term=golden+rice&rank=3>

We wish to remind you that the variety of Golden Rice used in these experiments (GR2) is inadequately described in terms of biological and biochemical characterisation on the Clinical Trials web site and indeed anywhere else in the publicly available literature, and has woefully inadequate pre-clinical evaluation. It is a genetically modified product which has not been shown to be distinctive, uniform and stable over time. It has never been through a regulatory / approvals process anywhere in the world. There is now a large body of evidence that shows that GM crop/food production is highly prone to inadvertent and unpredictable pleiotropic effects, which can result in health damaging effects when GM food products are fed to animals (for reviews see Pusztai and Bardocz , 2006; Schubert, 2008; Dona and Arvanitoyannis, 2009). More specifically, our greatest concern is that this rice, which is engineered to overproduce beta carotene, has never been tested in animals, and there is an extensive medical literature showing

Arvanitoyannis, 2009).

The feeding trials, as described in the documents from the OGTR, are completely inadequate to assess these risks. Feeding trials on rats, pigs and humans are proposed for a period of 1 to 28 days. The intention of these trials is to assess the altered grain starch composition of the wheat, but not to test for any unintended results. We have seen in the independent research conducted on consumption of GM plants to date that unintended effects may appear in later generations (Velimirov et al, 2008).

The use of human subjects for these GM feeding experiments is completely unacceptable. The experiments may be used to dispense with concerns about the health impacts of consuming GM plants, but will not in fact, address the health risks GM plants raise.

The feeding trials should not be conducted until long-term impact assessments have been undertaken and appropriate information released to enable the scientific community to determine the value of such research, as against the risks.

Yours sincerely,
The undersigned signatories:

References:

1. Pusztai A. and Bardocz S. (2006). GMO in animal nutrition: potential benefits and risks. In: Biology of Nutrition in Growing Animals, eds. R. Mosenthin, J. Zentek and T. Zebrowska, Elsevier Limited, pp. 513-540.
2. Schubert D.R. (2008) The problem

that retinoids that can be derived from beta carotene are both toxic and cause birth defects.

In these circumstances the use of human subjects (including children who are already suffering illness as a result of Vitamin A deficiency) for GM feeding experiments is completely unacceptable. The three Projects listed breach the Nuremberg Code / medical ethics code on a number of counts, and we urge you to call them to a halt immediately. They should not be resumed unless and until the researchers can demonstrate that a full range of laboratory and animal feeding trials have been completed and published for the Golden Rice strain being used, and unless and until appropriate regulatory bodies have had an opportunity to come to a view on the health and safety issues about which we are very concerned.

We can assure you that such trials would not have been approved within the European Union in the absence of safety information, which highlights yet again the flaw of the USDA and FDA regulatory system in considering GM crops/foods as hypothetically “generally recognised as safe – GRAS” in the absence of hard experimental data.

References:

- (1) Pusztai A. and Bardocz S. (2006). GMO in animal nutrition: potential benefits and risks. In: Biology of Nutrition in Growing Animals, eds. R. Mosenthin, J. Zentek and T. Zebrowska, Elsevier Limited, pp. 513-540.
- (2) Schubert D.R. (2008) The problem with nutritionally enhanced plants. J Med Food., 11: 601-605.

<p>with nutritionally enhanced plants. <i>J Med Food</i>. 11: 601-605.</p> <p>3. Dona A. and Arvanitoyannis I.S. (2009) Health Risks of Genetically Modified Foods. <i>Crit Rev Food Sci Nutr.</i>, 49: 164–175.</p> <p>4. Velimirov, A., Binter, C., and Zentek, J. (2008) “Biological effects of transgenic maize NK603xMON810 fed in long term reproduction studies in mice” Bundesministerium für Gesundheit, Familie und Jugend Report, Forschungsberichte der Sektion IV Band 3/2008, Austria</p>	<p>(3) Dona A. and Arvanitoyannis I.S. (2009) Health Risks of Genetically Modified Foods. <i>Crit Rev Food Sci Nutr.</i>, 49: 164–175.</p> <p>These unethical and potentially dangerous trials MUST be stopped, and we ask you to undertake a thorough review of why and how they were approved and funded in the first place. Please accept this letter as a formal protest, and please forward it to the relevant authorities at USDA, FDA, NIDDK, NIH and the US State Department.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
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