

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 1:30 PM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Bt corn petition

-----Original Message-----

From: Tom Quint [mailto:barbettomfarms@pioneercable.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 1:26 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Bt corn petition

Mr. Jennings,

I'm asking as a dairy farmer who grow corn to allow bt corn to beplanted in this state. It is another tool i can use to be more effecient and on a level planting field with my neighboring farmers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tom Quint
Hodgdon

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2007 3:03 PM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: pesticide treated corn seed

-----Original Message-----

From: C W [mailto:mistaya@adelphia.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 9:36 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: pesticide treated corn seed

Henry,

I am writing on behalf of The Williams Farm in North Anson Maine. We feel that it would greatly benefit the farmers in Maine if we were able to buy the pesticide treated corn seed currently available outside of Maine. Due to our very short growing season it is very difficult to meet the crop demand either for cattle feed or sale.

We strongly urge you to help bring this product to Maine.

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Coralee Williams

Williams Farms Inc.
Andy and Coralee Williams
Harvey and Jean Williams
Richard and Lorelei Williams

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2007 3:02 PM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: BT Corn

-----Original Message-----

From: Lorelei Williams [mailto:lwilliams44@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 7:47 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: BT Corn

Mr. Jennings,

Maine Dairy Farmers should be able to have the same technology as other farmers in the country. Please allow us to use BT Corn.

Thank you,
Richard Williams

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2007 8:09 AM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Bt Corn Petition

-----Original Message-----

From: Nancy Chandler [mailto:nchan@fairpoint.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2007 9:16 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Bt Corn Petition

Dear Henry,

I would like to register my opposition to the bill allowing genetically modified BT corn to be grown in Maine for the first time. Please add my statement here to the record from the April 13 hearing. I am a certified organic grower who provides a subscription service of over 30 vegetables, several herbs and flowers for 4 months of the summer to over 32 households and Senior Farmshare vegetables to 30 seniors. Maine has a marketing window of opportunity as perhaps the only state where GMO corn is not currently allowed to be grown. This prevents inevitable contamination of our many organic growers' corn, and allows Maine farmers a continued ability to promote the healthy quality of our foods. I am fearful that regular and widespread use of corn with bacillus thuringensis in all its cells would rapidly breed genetic resistance to BT in the 3 caterpillar corn pests, particularly the corn borer that winters over in Maine. Thus allowing GMO BT field corn in Maine, which is the same species as sweet corn and will interbreed, has pollen that travels a long distance, will eventually destroy the effectiveness of an essential organic pest control, not only for corn pests but for tomato hornworm, white cabbage butterfly, and all caterpillar pests. The risk of losing Bt as organic growers' most effective pesticide would cause huge economic losses, endanger the ability of farmers to grow organic corn, already a very difficult task, and are too great to take in order to make pest control easier for dairy farmers, who grow their own dry corn.

I hope you agree that protecting Maine organic farmers few organic pest controls, including the effectiveness of BT have high value. Caterpillar damage in cow corn shouldn't be a problem big enough to need BT bred into every cell of the corn plants. The dairy farmers can either accept ear damage, reducing the food value slightly, or apply BT as needed like organic farmers, thus protecting their own future ability to use BT also. It's the same scientific principle as overuse of antibiotics in low doses for nontherapeutic treatment of chickens or cows to prevent disease, a practice that is being discouraged recently by doctors concerned about the loss of effective antibiotics to antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Thanks for weighing my scientific and farming needs, perspectives and concerns.

Nancy Chandler
Phoenix Farm
191 S. Monmouth Rd.
Monmouth, Me. 04259
(207)933-9370
nchan@fairpoint.net

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2007 8:14 AM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Bt Corn Petition

-----Original Message-----

From: Perry Lilley [mailto:plilley@pioneerwireless.net]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2007 5:38 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Bt Corn Petition

Dear Mr. Jennings

I believe Bt corn should be allow in the State Of Maine. It has proven to be a safe and effective tool in the corn growing area of the U.S. I believe the concerns of pollen contamination can be address without banning Bt corn from all farm land.

Perry R Lilley
Lilley Farms
Smyrna, Me