

AUG - 3 2007

PO Box 74  
Newcastle, ME 04553

July 23, 2007

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to ask that the BPC not grant permission for growing Bt corn in Maine. The dangers of pollen drift and resistance far outweigh any benefit to the people in Maine. As in 1997 there is not a need for this corn - so there is no reason to grant chemical giants Dow, Pioneer and Monsanto permission to further pollute our state. You know, of course, they only care about making ever more money, not the welfare of people or the planet.

A further consideration is the state of honeybees. As I'm sure you are aware, many honeybees in the US are sick and dying. While it's not certain, some believe it may be caused by genetically altered crops inadvertently poisoning them. Without bees we have nothing to eat - so let's not jump into Bt corn when there is neither need nor benefit.

Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Martha Grant

**From:** Hicks, Lebelle  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2007 3:41 PM  
**To:** Fish, Gary  
**Cc:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** FW: letter in regard to applications to register Bt corn

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

**From:** Danita Murray [mailto:Murray@DC.NCGA.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2007 1:44 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry; Hicks, Lebelle  
**Cc:** Bertels Paul; paul.bertels@us.army.mil  
**Subject:** letter in regard to applications to register Bt corn

Attached please find comments from the National Corn Growers Association in reference to the Board Meeting scheduled for Friday, July 27, 2007. Please provide the comments to each Board member. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DaNita Murray  
Director, Public Policy  
National Corn Growers Association



National  
**Corn Growers**  
Association  
[www.ncga.com](http://www.ncga.com)

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July 26, 2007

Via email:

[henry.jennings@maine.gov](mailto:henry.jennings@maine.gov)

[lebelles.hicks@maine.gov](mailto:lebelles.hicks@maine.gov)

Maine Board of Pesticides Control  
Maine Department of Agriculture  
28 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Re: Applications to Register Bt corn

Dear Members of the Board:

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) was founded in 1957 and represents more than 32,000 growers in 48 states. Our members include producer who use biotechnology, conventional and organic cropping systems. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on the Board's review of several Bt corn products.

NCGA is not an advocacy group for biotechnology, rather we support producer choice. We want growers to make informed choices based on their agronomic needs and the markets they supply. NCGA supports science-based regulatory systems prior to trait commercialization. The U.S. regulatory system gives us full faith and confidence that these products are safe for food, feed, and the environment.

We realize as with all technology, growers who use these products must use them responsibly. The efficacy of this technology relies on good stewardship practices, and NCGA has taken the lead in promoting and educating growers in Insect Resistance and Weed Resistance Management. In order to expand grower education, we provide on-line tutorials in proper stewardship at <http://www.ncga.com/biotechnology/main/index.asp>.

In recent years, opponents of biotechnology have claimed that different production systems cannot "co-exist". Frankly, this allegation is untrue. Co-existence is not a new phenomenon, producers have taken steps to protect and segregate crops long before the introduction of biotechnology. Our members have demonstrated co-existence is as easy as communicating with your neighbor. Testimonials from several of our members explaining how they co-exist with their organic neighbors are available at <http://www.ncga.com/FarmerToFarmer/coexistence.asp>.

We encourage you to approve the planting of Bt corn without unreasonable restriction in Maine. The safety of these products has been proven throughout the U.S. and world, and we encourage you to provide your farmers the option of using these valuable tools.

Thank you for your consideration, please do not hesitate to contact NCGA and please visit our website.

**HEADQUARTER OFFICE**  
632 Cepi Drive  
Chesterfield, Missouri 63005  
(636) 733-9004  
FAX: (636) 733-9005

**WASHINGTON DC OFFICE**  
122 C Street NW, Suite 510  
Washington, DC 20001-2109  
(202) 628-7001  
FAX: (202) 628-1933

Sincerely,

National Corn Growers Association

From: Karen Ninnis [kninnis@adelphia.net]  
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007 1:14 PM  
To: Fish, Gary  
Subject: Reject Bt Corn

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

1) Applicants accept liability for any contamination; 2) Applicants commit to not suing any farmer who is unintentionally contaminated; 3) Require farmers who wish to use the technology to attend a comprehensive set of workshops on reducing contamination; 4) Limit approval to field corn; 5) Require substantial buffer zones on the property of the GMO grower between fields growing Bt corn and organic producers .

Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Karen Ninnis  
2055 Washington Road  
Waldoboro, ME 04572

**From:** Joel Cartwright [joel.sailing@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2007 12:25 PM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Subject:** Please reject Bt corn applications

To the Board of Pesticide Control,

I write to urge to you to reject the currently pending applications to grow genetically modified Bt corn in Maine. From a purely scientific view, Bt corn is a bad idea. Numerous published studies have shown that Bt corn leads to the development of Bt-resistant strains of corn borers and other pests, creating yet another problem, while rendering the current application of Bt to crops useless. It is widely accepted in the medical world that administering constant doses of drugs to patients only leads to the development of resistant strains of the disease, whether it is tuberculosis, malaria or HIV. The same logic applies in agriculture - the only way to effectively treat infestations of pests without creating resistant strains is with controlled and limited application at specific times. We should be trying to move away from the "pesticide treadmill," where we must apply more and more pesticides and must constantly develop new ones to stay ahead of highly resistant pests. This is a never ending arms race that we are likely to lose in the long run, while seriously degrading the environment. Introducing pesticides into the genetic code of corn is a drastic step in agriculture that has not been studied long enough to know it's full impact. I am proud that Maine has so far kept Bt corn out of the state and I think that if we continue to do so we will be shown in not so long that it was the right thing to do. Thank you for your good work and I hope that you vote to reject this potentially damaging crop from being grown in our state.

Sincerely,

Joel Cartwright  
Waldoboro, Maine

Joel Cartwright  
1391 Washington Road  
Waldoboro, ME 04572  
(207) 832-5584

From: Randy Dee Ferrell [randydee@gmail.com]  
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007 1:57 PM  
To: Fish, Gary  
Subject: Require These Conditions Before Bt Corn is Approved

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

1) Applicants accept liability for any contamination; 2) Applicants commit to not suing any farmer who is unintentionally contaminated; 3) Require farmers who wish to use the technology to attend a comprehensive set of workshops on reducing contamination; 4) Limit approval to field corn; 5) Require substantial buffer zones on the property of the GMO grower between fields growing Bt corn and organic producers .

Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Randy Dee Ferrell  
52 Deering St Apt 3  
Portland, ME 04101

From: amymorley@bellsouth.net  
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007 9:45 PM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: Please reject all applications for GE Bt corn use

Importance: High

Dear Maine Board of Pesticides Control:

Tomorrow, Friday, July 27, you will be considering whether to approve the registration of this genetically modified grain and allow its planting in Maine agriculture.

Currently, Maine is the only state in the US where *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) corn cannot be sold or grown.

I urge you to reject all applications for GE Bt corn use in the State until the Legislature acts to protect all Maine farmers from genetic contamination or the companies accept responsibility for any damages caused by the Bt crops.

As a concerned citizen of Maine, I urge the BPC not to approve the Bt application until companies are held accountable for damage caused by GE crops and steps are taken to reduce the risk of contamination in the first place.

Sincerely,  
Amy Morley  
17 Pleasant Street, #4  
Blue Hill, ME 04614  
(207) 374-2954

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2007 11:45 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: please stop aerial spraying of blueberries

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

**From:** David Koenka [mailto:koenka@midmaine.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2007 8:46 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** please stop aerial spraying of blueberries

Mr. Jennings,

we live in an old farmhouse among blueberry fields in the town of Penobscot. For the past 20 years we have been deeply concerned about the pesticide/fungicide aerial spraying that happens all around us. We feel almost helpless in trying to protect ourselves, our pets, our food, and our water (we have vegetable gardens, a field for animal feed, wild organic blueberries, and a pond) from the contamination that is inevitable as even a soft breeze will blow the particles of velpar, guthion, or now imiden unto our homestead. If the blueberry companies believe these chemicals are necessary then ground spraying would be a more responsible way of applying them. Then the application range would be more controlable. Please do your best to impose a ban on aerial spraying. It is a violation of our right to health and private property.

Thank you for your time,

Eleni and David Koenka

(207) 326-9702

**From:** Andrew King [kinger79@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2007 6:05 AM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Subject:** bt corn

I am writing in support of the use of bt corn in maine. I am concerned that our choice of seed is getting smaller and smaller as more varieties have stacked traits. Being in central Aroostook county, our selection of seed varieties that will work here is small enough now. I also feel that it would help with cutworm whick we have had some problem with in the past.

Andrew King

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[See what you re getting into before you go there](#)

**From:** C W [mistaya@adelphia.net] on behalf of fullautoaw@adelphia.net

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2007 6:07 AM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Subject:** BT seed

I am a dairy farmer in central Maine. We plant 750 acres of corn. I know that we would use and benefit greatly from the use of the BT corn seed. Worms have always been a problem.

I strongly recommend that you approve this type of seed as it will benefit many others in Maine as well.

Thank You,  
Andy Williams

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2007 8:19 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Bt Corn Application

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

**From:** David Koenka [mailto:koenka@midmaine.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2007 8:24 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Bt Corn Application

Good morning Mr. Jennings,

as you go into the BPC meeting today we would like you to add our concerns to the thought process that will guide you. And we speak for many of our neighbors and friends as we have conversed about this matter many times and have all expressed similar thoughts. We are extremely concerned about the approval of Bt corn in our state (and nationwide). We have researched the matter and have found, to our dismay, that this corn poses a number of risks to both organic and conventional growers as well as the ecological health of our state. Pollen from Bt corn has been found to be toxic to non-target insect species. Congress is now putting some attention on the all-important pollinators. Also, a study recently found that Bt corn plants secret toxins into the soil where they are grown, harming soil microbiota, and reducing soil fertility. We don't have the margins to risk harming our valuable top soil any more.

Then there is the question of who will be liable for contamination of organic or conventional crops cross-pollinated by Bt corn nearby? What effects will organic farmers suffer? Will they lose market share because of almost inevitable cross-pollination of their crops with Bt? Who will pay for the loss? Will we the consumers pay with potential problems to our health? And what of farmers saving corn seed? What happens when their corn is contaminated by Bt corn? Will farmers be liable for patent infringement and vulnerable to lawsuits from Monsanto? We have seen Monsanto drag farmers thru the legal system already for something as inevitable as cross-pollination. It is so distressing to even think of these problems - and i am not but a home vegetable gardener, not a farmer.

It is so useful that Bt as a spray is an approved organic pest control tool. As you know, it is applied and deteriorates in 24 hours. If it is built into the plant will pests develop resistance to Bt due to the constant exposure?

PLEASE, advocate for rejecting all applications for GE Bt corn use in the state. We must protect our local farmers, agriculture in Maine. If Bt corn is used, the liability for related damages MUST rest on those selling and using Bt corn. While the movement for organically-grown and genetically diversified fruits and vegetables is growing how can we take steps backward? How long must the warning bells ring for us to wake up and take appropriate action for our health and well-being, for our children and grandchildren and for this planet? We need to withstand the

pressure from huge agro-business. We need to be on the side of sustainability.

Thank you for your time. We will be lookig for the reports from your meeting.

Sincerely,

David and Eleni Koenka

**From:** Highland Farms Inc. [highland\_farms@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2007 6:25 AM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Subject:** BT corn

Highland Farms, Inc. is a dairy farm in Cornish, Maine. We grow 150 acres of forage corn for our 500 head of cows. We feel the BT corn technology would be very beneficial to our operation saving dollars spent on pesticide use and we feel it would be less harmful to the operators and the enviroment. It would lessen the changes of over use of pesticides. Thank you for all you do to make our farming safer and our state better place to live. Thanks again,  
Libby Bleakney

**From:** mistaya@adelphia.net

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2007 6:07 AM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Subject:** PLEASE APPROVE BT CORN SEED!!!!!!

My husband and his family are Dairy Farmers. They are the largest supplier in the state of Maine for Oakhurst. The approval of BT seed would help their business in many ways.

Here are a few examples that I am aware of:

Less or no worms

Less manpower and spray on the field after planting

Less loss of product

Ultimately happier farmers!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you for your time on this matter.

Coralee Williams

From: Peter Woodruff [petewoodruff@gwi.net]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 5:51 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: Bt Corn Threatens Organic Farms

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

1) Applicants accept liability for any contamination; 2) Applicants commit to not suing any farmer who is unintentionally contaminated; 3) Require farmers who wish to use the technology to attend a comprehensive set of workshops on reducing contamination; 4) Limit approval to field corn; 5) Require substantial buffer zones on the property of the GMO grower between fields growing Bt corn and organic producers .

Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Peter Woodruff  
24 South River Road  
Arrowsic, ME 04530

From: Jakki Austin [starryredlocks@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 5:53 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

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Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

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Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Jakki Austin  
11 Grove St  
Newport, ME 04953

207-368-4056

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2007 8:18 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: Applications from Dow

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

From: Richard Robles [mailto:rrobles@mfx.net]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 1:25 PM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Cc: Angela Wotton; mainecues@mfx.net  
Subject: Applications from Dow

Please consider the following and take action to deny the use of BT in Maine.

1. Find independent data supporting the need for the product. The major sources of information on pests in field corn are an informal survey by a seed supplier and the testimony of dairy farmers who want to use the corn. The pests that might be controlled (root-worms, cutworms, corn borers) are cyclical not present during the entire growing season, currently are not sprayed often, and are most prevalent in crops that have not been rotated among fields from one year to the next.
2. Consider how Bt Corn will contribute to the development of insect resistance. There is a real and substantial difference between applying Bt once or twice a season on specific crops, and having 25,000 acres of plants acting as a giant pesticide blanket through the entire growing season and beyond. Keep Bt usable for everyone!
3. Examine what happens to beneficial soil microorganisms. Bt corn seems to be the plant that keeps on giving giving off the Bt toxin into the soil from the roots even after the corn plant above is harvested. The Board needs to consider and understand what impact this has on the health of the soil. (D Saxena, G Stotzky (2000), Insecticidal toxin from *Bacillus thuringiensis* is released from roots of transgenic Bt corn in vitro and in situ, FEMS Microbiology Ecology 33 (1), 35 39.)
4. Read an excellent Opinion piece in today's Portland Press Herald.
5. Read MOFGA's position statement on genetically engineered organisms.

MOFGA continues to oppose the registration of all plant-incorporated pesticide products like Bt corn.

Don't gamble our children's future on Corporate farm polices..

Richard Robles  
Fort Fairfield

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2007 8:22 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: Maine Does Not Need Bt Corn

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

From: Diana McCain [mailto:dmccain@maine.rr.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 10:35 PM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: Maine Does Not Need Bt Corn

As a 3 season gardener here in Maine, I am very concerned about the impending application for GMO Bt Corn to be grown in our state. I have followed similiar scenarios in other states and I think we would be wise to step back and do our research. As you know yourself there are many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

First and foremost I think we need to discuss whether state law shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers are sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields and gardens which will I believe most certainly happen. We do not have control of the wind, birds and insects. Contamination will occur naturally and eventually. We also need to fully research what the long-term effects are going to be on our precious soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

- 1) Applicants accept liability for any contamination;
- 2) Applicants commit to not suing any farmer who is unintentionally contaminated;
- 3) Require farmers who wish to use the technology to attend a comprehensive set of workshops on reducing contamination;
- 4) Limit approval to field corn;
- 5) Require substantial buffer zones on the property of the GMO grower between fields growing Bt corn and organic producers .

Maine farmers and gardeners like myself need protection. Please do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Diana McCain  
346 Hillside Street  
Yarmouth, ME 04096

From: Steve Hoad [mainefun40@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 9:16 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: Lengtheon the Approval Process for Bt Corn

As Maine Farmers are picking corn today we're thinking about BT corn and wishing we could be at these hearings. It is important for farmers to have their voices heard, and hearings in the high growing season can't be easily attended. When a crop is ready and the market wants it, we must be working. There is an opportunity for the legislature to take up this issue, and we hope you will open the door to that opportunity by postponing the approval sought today for BT Corn. Please postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people. Posting from Emma's Family Farm:

Steve Hoad  
Emma's Family Farm  
135 Windsor Neck Road  
Windsor, ME 04363

From: Eric Horschak [dalza98@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 5:53 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: No Bt Corn without Farmer Protection

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

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Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Eric Horschak  
50 S. Gouldsboro Rd.  
Gouldsboro, ME 04607

From: Michelle Truman [michelletmail@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 9:38 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: Require These Conditions Before Bt Corn is Approved

Please REJECT or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state.

What about its effect on Maine's farms, ecology and people? There are simply TOO MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS.

Bt should NOT be approved (if at all):  
-until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination;  
-if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields;  
-what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion; and  
-how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance.

Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and DO NOT APPROVE any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Michelle Truman  
PO Box 296  
Hallowell, ME 04347

From: Susan Wind [shifra7@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2007 6:31 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: URGENT: Please keep Bt corn out of Maine

I have great concern about the future of Maine farmers and the integrity of what they grow. I agree with the statements below and urge you to:

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

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Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Susan Wind  
58 Park St.  
Camden, ME 04843

**From:** John O'Donnell [johno@mainegrassfed.us]

**Sent:** Saturday, July 28, 2007 9:38 AM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Cc:** mofga@mofga.org; 'Rob Fish'

**Subject:** BT Corn

I wanted to express my disappointment that BT corn seems to have been approved in the State of Maine. Many of us had hoped that our State would exhibit some leadership in stopping the proliferation of these dangerous technologies.

I see that is not the case.

I have committed myself to educating all I can about the dangers of these GE technologies, and one big topic that has not yet come to the forefront. That issue is the abuse of animals. I as a human can become educated about the very real scientifically proven dangers of GE crops and avoid food that contains them. Animals, however, are at the mercy of their keepers for their well being. Cows can not cry out as their internal organs are damaged when being fed the "grain-like" material that is GE corn. I am hoping that the American people will respond to this animal abuse issue more, even as their relatives and children are becoming increasingly sick after ingesting products containing these GE "food-like" materials.

I am not a member of PETA or any other animal welfare group, and I actually raise livestock myself. But I am astonished that others seem to treat these animals as objects, and exhibit little concern over what they are fed. I have seen firsthand the health differences between Organic and grass-fed animals and those fed GE grain. It is real-world and the contrast in animal health is astonishing. I don't expect anyone on the board of pesticide to take this seriously, since your views are quite evident based on your votes regarding BT corn. But, it is my hope that the American consumer will come thru again like they have in the Bovine Growth Hormone issue and place market pressure against the insanity that has become our nations disregard for human and animal health in our farming systems.

Sincerely,

John O'Donnell

O'Donnell's Farm

Certified Organic 100% Grass-fed Beef

445 South Monmouth Road

Monmouth, ME 04259

(207) 933-3052

[johno@mainegrassfed.us](mailto:johno@mainegrassfed.us)

From: Andrew Slusarski [aslusarski@maine.rr.com]  
Sent: Sunday, July 29, 2007 11:15 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: Require These Conditions Before Bt Corn is Approved

Please reject applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, and its effect on our ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

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Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Andrew Slusarski  
29 Pya Road  
Portland, ME 04103

**From:** jane decker [jwin36@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2007 5:15 PM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Subject:** gmo corn

I am so very disappointed that you are allowing gmo corn in this state. It will affect any other corn growers near the gmo crop. This state has a large number of organic growers and the largest and most famous organic fair in the country. I am embarrassed by your complete ignorance.

Jane Decker  
Randolph ME

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 10:35 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: Require These Conditions Before Bt Corn is Approved

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

From: Andrew Slusarski [mailto:aslusarski@maine.rr.com]  
Sent: Sunday, July 29, 2007 11:15 AM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: Require These Conditions Before Bt Corn is Approved

Please reject applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, and its effect on our ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

1) Applicants accept liability for any contamination; 2) Applicants commit to not suing any farmer who is unintentionally contaminated; 3) Require farmers who wish to use the technology to attend a comprehensive set of workshops on reducing contamination; 4) Limit approval to field corn; 5) Require substantial buffer zones on the property of the GMO grower between fields growing Bt corn and organic producers .

Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Andrew Slusarski  
29 Pya Road  
Portland, ME 04103

From: Peter Crownfield [peter@sustainlv.org]  
Sent: Sunday, July 29, 2007 1:49 PM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: approval of GMO corn

Shame on you for approving GMO corn, just when all evidence is now showing that organic methods sequester more carbon in the soil and eliminate the need for pesticides. These organisms are NOT SAFE!

Peter Crownfield  
Alliance for Sustainable Communities  
1966 Creek Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
<www.sustainlv.org>  
<peter@sustainlv.org>

From: Tanya Sweatt [fridayyet76@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 3:22 PM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: No BT Corn

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

Despite all the unanswered questions surrounding Bt corn, if the BPC does indeed approve the application for it to be grown in the state, I strongly urge the following conditions be imposed by the BPC :

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Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Tanya Sweatt  
26 East Oxford St.  
Portland, ME 04101

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2007 8:23 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Please Keep Maine Bt Corn Free

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

**From:** Virginia & Stanwood Fish [mailto:sngfish@suscom-maine.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2007 11:16 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Please Keep Maine Bt Corn Free

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to register strong opposition to the approval of ANY genetically engineered agricultural products/produce as well as the use of any insecticides and/or chemicals against bugs, pests, blights of any kind. All of these proposed products and produce interfere with and/or and destructive to the natural order and environment.

PLEASE DO NOT approve any of these applications/proposals.

Thank you. Virginia M. Fish

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2007 11:18 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Please Keep Maine Bt Corn Free

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

**From:** Virginia & Stanwood Fish [mailto:sngfish@suscom-maine.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2007 11:16 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Please Keep Maine Bt Corn Free

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PLEASE DO NOT approve any of these applications/proposals.

Thank you. Virginia M. Fish

**From:** Arthur Tesla [arthurtesla@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2007 10:36 AM  
**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet  
**Subject:** Sierra Club genetic engineering website

**Bee colony collapse syndrome is affecting 35 states in the United States threatening the future of food production!**

Farming in this country has gone beserk with genetically engineered crops! Crops that have been genetically altered so they can be sprayed with poisonous herbicide, and crops that have been genetically altered so the plant produces large amounts of pesticide, the BT toxin! THE PESTICIDE IS IN THE PLANT and kills beneficial and harmful insects! When the plant rots into the ground, the pesticide in the plant goes into the ground! You haven't eliminated pesticide from the environment--you've changed its form! When the consumer eats food from the plant, they are eating the pesticide! DANGEROUS!!!! When an animal eats food from the plant, it is eating the pesticide! Please STOP DOING STRANGE, TWISTED, BIZARRE THINGS TO OUR FOOD SUPPLY!!

Regarding genetically engineered foods, **THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION URGES CAUTION AND CALLS FOR A MORATORIUM ON GROWING GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROPS!** The British Medical Association says these products have been rushed into use without adequate safety testing!

**From The British Medical Association Report:**

Members of the GM jury project were briefed on various aspects of genetic modification by a diverse group of acknowledged experts in the relevant subjects. The GM jury reached the conclusion that the sale of GM foods currently available should be halted and the moratorium on commercial growth of GM crops should be continued. These conclusions were based on the precautionary principle and lack of evidence of any benefit. The Jury expressed concern over the impact of GM crops on farming, the environment, food safety and other potential health effects.<sup>15</sup>

**Avoiding genetically engineered crops was Maine's strength!** Maine was the last bastion of common sense in the United States!

I am opposed to genetically engineered foods!! I personally know 300 people who are opposed to genetically engineered foods!! In California, four counties voted to ban growing genetically engineered foods.

The Sierra Club representing 750,000 members is opposed to genetically engineered foods! Greenpeace is opposed to genetically engineered foods!! Millions of Americans are opposed to genetically engineered foods. Europe is opposed to genetically engineered foods!! Japan is opposed to genetically engineered foods!! Other countries are opposed to genetically engineered foods!!!

**Please do not use genetically engineered foods. Why force on people something they don't want?**

**One website calls Monsanto the most hated company on earth!!! Another website**

**calls genetically engineered foods the largest food experiment in the history of the world!!**

**Genetically engineered foods are dangerous tampering with nature and we must stop genetically engineered foods!**

Sincerely, Arthur Tesla

<http://www.sierraclub.org/biotech/>

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/campaigns/genetic-engineering>

many countries are opposed to genetically engineered foods

<http://www.thecampaign.org/international.php>

**US agronomist Dr Charles Benbrook** warned last year: "Australia should avoid the problems and market losses that the US experienced with GM."

---

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**From:** Carole Whelan [sambo@tidewater.net]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2007 11:09 AM

**To:** AF-Pesticides Internet

**Cc:** jenglish@midcoast.com; Fish, Gary; mofga@mofga.org; Jadczyk, Anthony M; godslove@tidewater.net; Elizabeth Parker; Judith Schmidt; Alex Arau

**Subject:** BT effects on honey bees

Dear friends and board members,

Yesterday the sweet corn in my vegetable garden was humming loudly. I watched my honey bees hanging by the dozens, busily gathering one of their favorite pollens. Even from a distance, the stream of yellow could be seen heading straight to their hive.

Yesterday was also when I learned the Maine Pesticide Control Board approved the use of genetically modified BT corn in Maine. I wonder how long it will be before my honey bees are carrying the BT back to the hive and feeding it to their offspring, since there is no way to control where the BT pollen will wind up. I wondered if the Board considered honey bees in their decision and if the board members were aware of the current poor state of honey bees in the US.

The many wild pollinators will also be subjected to the BT pesticide. Without the pollinators, we will have no fruit, no flowers, no vegetables, very little plant food. How will my honey bees and wild pollinators be effected by the BT? Does anyone know? How will this effect certified organic farmers who have no way of keeping the BT corn pollin away from their crops and their honey bees?

Sincerely,

Carole Whelan

414 Alford Lake Road

Hope, ME 04847

763-3226

[sambo@tidewater.net](mailto:sambo@tidewater.net)

**From:** J. Schmidt [judithschmidt@principia.edu]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2007 11:28 AM

**To:** Carole Whelan

**Cc:** AF-Pesticides Internet; jenglish@midcoast.com; Fish, Gary; mofga@mofga.org; Jadczyk, Anthony M; godslove@tidewater.net; Elizabeth Parker; Judith Schmidt; Alex Arau

**Subject:** Re: BT effects on honey bees

Dear Carole,

How I agree with your concern!! So few people seem ready to look at the whole picture, to think ahead as indigenous peoples do, and so we continue to do damage to the natural environment! It is just dreadful to think that some horrible decision made to allow some damaging product to be used means it can now get onto private properties where the owners don't want it, and to organic farms. Pretty crazy, isn't it! We have to just keep working as much as we can to get better laws, and certainly to educate people, as I did for two days this past weekend by having my place open for Washington Days. Not only shared the solar and wind energy, but also about my honeybees and wild foods, organic growing and protection of wildlife pond and the land. Step by step. Sincerely, Judith Schmidt

Blessings and Balance

Dr. Judith Schmidt  
777 Old County Road  
Washington, ME 04574

207 845-2378  
207 845-6065 fax

[judithschmidt@principia.edu](mailto:judithschmidt@principia.edu)

<http://www.midcoast.com/~jgs/#TOP>  
(Solar site)

<http://www.spirituality.com>

Carole Whelan wrote:

Dear friends and board members,

Yesterday the sweet corn in my vegetable garden was humming loudly. I watched my honey bees hanging by the dozens, busily gathering one of their favorite pollens. Even from a distance, the stream of yellow could be seen heading straight to their hive.

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Sincerely,  
Carole Whelan  
414 Alford Lake Road  
Hope, ME 04847  
763-3226  
[sambo@tidewater.net](mailto:sambo@tidewater.net)

From: Lois Anne [loisannel001@aol.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2007 12:26 PM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: Reject Bt Corn

Please reject or postpone the applications pending that would allow GMO Bt Corn to be grown in the state. There are simply too many unanswered questions regarding this technology, its effect on our states farms, ecology and people.

Bt should not be approved until it is determined in state law who shall be responsible for contamination, if farmers can be sued for unwanted presence of patented material in their fields, what the long-term effects are on soil, plant, insect and human health from exposure and ingestion, and how to adequately prevent pests from developing resistance, this application should not be approved.

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Please give Maine farmers the protection they deserve and do not approve any product that may harm the health of Maine's farming economy, rich ecological resources, or people's health.

Lois Anne  
501 Main Street  
Rockland, ME 04841

From: becka smith [strivin@wildmail.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2007 7:36 AM  
To: AF-Pesticides Internet  
Subject: bt corn

To whom it may concern,  
Our family is very disappointed to hear that you have approved the use of bt corn in Maine. As members of MOFGA, we were proud of Maine for being the one state that stood up for the rights of farmers to not be contaminated with the use of genetically engineered corn. There are no protections for organic farmers or for the population at large from the potential dangers that could happen. We would like to see this decision reversed.

Sincerely,  
Rebecca, Jeff, Oceanna and Rowan Gagne  
53 Hooper Rd.  
Franklin, ME 04634

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From: Dustin Eirdosh [mailto:deirdosh2@u98.k12.me.us]  
Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2007 12:33 PM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Cc: Connors, Raymond G; Hicks, Lebelle  
Subject: Bt Question

To Maine BPC,

As a producer of 'all natural' beef and pork products, I worked extremely hard in the last several years to secure a predominately maine-grown supply of feed grains. I direct market all of my product to local families, many of whom attend the school system in which I also serve as a ag-ed specialist.

I was extremely disappointed to learn of the BPC decision to approve Bt corn for Maine. I am not an organic producer, and there for my customers depend on my word in determining the quality and wholesomeness of my products. In the past, I was able to assure them that the corn I use, like many 'conventional' ME farm products is still produced in a natural fashion free of the technical modifications and additives my customers are concerned about. What your decision does, at least in the eyes of the consumer, is drive a deeper wedge dividing Organic and Conventional producers - in a time when Maine Farmers need to be working together this is a real shame. From my understanding the overwhelming majority of public input was not in favor of this approval, and certainly in a state where the vast majority of our agriculture is produced on family farms and marketed heavily on it's "Natural" qualities- this decision can only serve to weaken the strong image of Maine Farms held by New England consumers.

My question for you is this- How does the BPC justify this decision in terms of supporting the public image of Maine Agriculture? Secondly, How can the public be assured that the BPC is making decisions in the public interest and not catering to the wishes of corporations focused more on profit than on the health of Maine's communities and family farms?

As part of our annual "Project Citizen" service-learning policy project, we engage each of our 5, 8th grade classes in examining the implications of state and regional policies- challenging them to become effective advocates for the positions they have researched. In the past, folks at the DOA have been wonderful in providing unbiased information on the issues they work on. I hope as my students examine this decision they will still be able to feel that a fair and impartial process was followed- any information you can provide me to get them there would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these two questions, I am very interested in your response and look forward to the state-wide discussions to be held in the months to come.

--

Dustin Eirdosh  
Youth Advocacy Consultant  
Coordinated School Health Program  
School Union #98  
deirdosh2@u98.k12.me.us  
(207) 669-2750

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Monday, August 27, 2007 9:32 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: BT Corn

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

**From:** Maureen [mailto:mtfauske@gwi.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2007 5:50 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** BT Corn

Stop this madness Now and forever! For the love of your children please keep Maine free of this and any GE crop.

V/r Todd L Fauske

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Friday, August 03, 2007 12:19 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Aerial Blueberry Spraying

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

**From:** Beverlee C. Beers [mailto:[bcbeers@midmaine.com](mailto:bcbeers@midmaine.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 03, 2007 12:13 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Aerial Blueberry Spraying

Henry Jennings, Director  
Maine Board of Pesticides Control

We are very concerned about blueberry fields pesticide spraying. The Merrill blueberry field is right behind our home, up over a hill. A couple of weeks ago a helicopter started spraying at 6 a.m. and was flying right over our home, then swooping and diving over the blueberry field. I didn't think about it at first, but soon we were smelling the pesticide. In hindsight, I realize I probably should have closed all the windows and doors. It was quite a strong smell, and the wind usually does blow our way down over the hill to our home from the blueberry field. We had no prior notification of the spraying date and time.

My husband has emphysema and has to use inhalers during the day and is hooked up to oxygen at night. We are concerned that this pesticide spray may not be good for him.

We saw the article in the Bangor Daily News and wanted to tell you of our concerns. Thank you.

Beverlee C. and John W. Beers  
16 Buttercup Lane  
Hancock, ME. 04640-3126  
207-667-6185  
[bcbeers@midmaine.com](mailto:bcbeers@midmaine.com), [jwbeers@midmaine.com](mailto:jwbeers@midmaine.com)