

I support passage of the bills regarding genetically modified (GM) food labeling including fish:

HB 2175, 2530, 2532, and 3177,

As a member of Oregon Tilth for several decades and a Realtor for 27 years who has sold many organic farms that sell at Eugene's Farmers Market and elsewhere,

I ask that you support the above bills to mandate labeling of genetically modified food.

I am appalled that Oregon has not led the way in developing a policy to mandate labeling of genetically modified food.

Years ago, I attended a conference at UO Law School, Eugene, attended by agricultural scientists, farmers, lawyers and others warning about multifarious problems that could develop

with widespread use of GM crops. In the past 15 years we have seen devastating consequences from GM crops being released not only in the US but also in the world.

Students of Ignacio Chapela* from UC - Berkeley discovered that Mexican corn had been contaminated by USA GM corn.

**Percy Schmeiser and his wife from Canada had spent most of their \$150,000 retirement money fighting Monsanto who had taken them to court because THEIR seed had been released into
by Monsanto Round-Up ready seed contaminating Schmeiser's organically grown canola fields.**

(Percy and his wife have developed the OG canola seed over 35 years in Canada only to have it contaminated.

Ultimately, The Supreme Court of Canada agreed with Schmeiser, ruling that he didn't have to pay Monsanto anything.

Over 220,000 farmers in India have committed suicide mainly influenced by the take over of GM crops. Cost of seed has risen 8000% according to Vandana Shiva.

Please recognize the DEVASTATING effects of GM on our food supply and proceed without delay to pass these urgent bills requiring LABELING. Superweeds is just another of the consequences that were predicted a decade ago that are now invading about half of the farms in the USA.

(I am currently a member of Oregon Tilth Inc. Advisory Committee and Tilth Foundation Board of Directors but am not officially speaking for either nonprofit organization.)

Thank you for your public service and accelerating passage of these bills!

*** Transgene research**

Chapela was co-author (with his graduate student, David Quist) of a controversial 2001 [Nature](#) paper about the flow of [transgenes](#) in to wild [Mexican maize](#).^[1] Controversy over the accuracy of the claims and methodological concerns about the paper led to an editor's note saying there was insufficient evidence to justify the original publication. Advocates of GM crops widely, and erroneously, called this a retraction.^[2] A subsequent study performed in 2003–2004 at two independent labs, found no evidence of transgenic DNA in Mexican maize.^[3] However, a more recent study published in the February 2009 issue of [Molecular Ecology](#) confirmed the presence of transgenic DNA in Mexican maize.^[4] The study, however, did not confirm an important conclusion from the 2001 [Nature](#) paper, namely, that the transgene-contaminated corn has replicated. Chapela is reported to have stated in response to the study, "It is good to see this...but it took seven years."^[2]

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ignacio_Chapela

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