

**THIS IS AN ELECTRONIC LETTER. TO ADD YOUR NAME, PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO [DANIELLA@GREENAGRICULTURE.ORG](mailto:DANIELLA@GREENAGRICULTURE.ORG) WITH NAME AND CONTACT INFO AND WE WILL UPDATE THE FILE.**

April 20, 2009

Attn. Monterey County Board of Supervisors:

Mr. Fernando Armenta, 60 W. Market Street, Ste 110, Salinas

Mr. Lou Calcagno, P.O.Box 787, Castroville

Mr. Simon Salinas, P.O.Box 946, 522-C Broadway, King City

Ms. Jane Parker, 2616 First Ave, Marina

Mr. David Potter, 1200 Aguajito Rd, Ste 001, Monterey

Re: Declare Monterey County a GMO-free zone

Dear Supervisors,

1. Presently, there is inadequate monitoring and oversight of genetically engineered crops by the federal and state governments, necessary to ensure public health and environmental safety. The planting of genetically modified crops is not required to be publicly disclosed by any federal, state or county agency.
2. There is a lack of comprehensive safety testing of the effects of exposure to genetically engineered organisms in food. Presently, it is not required by any government agency.
3. Farmers and growers who do not want their crops contaminated with genetically modified organisms have no way of protecting their crops. Presently, there are no adequate safeguards to prevent genetically engineered contamination of crops, plants, insects, wildlife and wild-lands, which can result from forces of nature. The effects on ecosystems are unknown.
4. There is currently no legal requirement for labeling of genetically engineered foods, seeds or rootstock, and that is a danger to consumers and farmers alike.

We believe that introducing genetically engineered crops can cause irreparable damage to the organic industry in Monterey County; it can cause harmful and prolonged exposure of farm-workers to pesticides; it can cause grave health effects on the population of Monterey County; it can cause irreversible damages to the eco-systems of Monterey County.

With this in mind, we ask you to declare the Monterey County a GMO-free zone until such time as adequate regulations exist to address items 1, 2, 3 and 4 above.

Signed,

Organization

GREEN AGRICULTURE

Pesticide Watch Education Fund

Stop The Spray

Eagle Visions Photography

Sustainable Carmel Valley

Carmel Valley Women's Network

Carmel Lavender

"Tomorrow Matters" on KRXA

Sean Green Photography

Strauss Family Dairy Farm

Green Party of Monterey County

Contact Info

[www.greenagriculture.org](http://www.greenagriculture.org)



Paul Schramski, State Director

John Russo, Founder

Craig Lovell

Mibs McCarthy

Grace Darcy

Daniella Russo

Deborah Lindsay, Radio Host and Producer

Sean Green

Strauss Family

Larry Parrish, George Riley, Ruth Smith, Tim

Wilson, Frank Lambert, Craig Potter, Sylvia Shih,

Nancy Pratt, Jan Shriner