

Monsanto has committed slow poisoning of the people of Wales with PCBs and Roundup

With help from the British Government, the Expert Committee on Pesticides, the Health and Safety Executive, Defra, the Royal Society, European Food Safety Authority, European Chemicals Agency (that said that glyphosate was not carcinogenic to humans but was toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects) the German Rapporteur Member State (that claimed glyphosate was not ecotoxic), the BBC, the BMA and Rupert Murdoch

Monsanto has also committed ecocide with Roundup in Wales

In 2006 our nature reserve in Wales had 143 species of moth (some in numbers up to 500). In 2017 we have virtually none. Between 2006 and 2011 we had 22 species of butterfly. In 2017 there are very few butterflies and mostly the 'white' varieties. Aquatic life only started to disappear in 2016



Solitary bee hotel June 29 2015 (full)

Solitary bee hotel July 06 2016 (empty)

During the summer and autumn of 2016, Swansea City and County Council authorised the spraying of 3,000 km of Roundup on city roadsides in a 'war on weeds' (There's no hiding place for weeds) *Swansea Leader*. A total of 518 kg was used in 2016. Monsanto's contractor, Complete Weed Control, has continued the war on weeds, spraying 169 kg in March 2017 and plans to increase it to three sprayings for 2017.

"Corporate totalitarianism ... rules through dispensability and corruption. It treats communities, people, countries, ecosystems and species as disposable and dispensable."

A long and unsatisfactory history of correspondence with CRD/HSE about pesticides

I first wrote to the Chemicals Regulation Directorate on 6 January 2011 to tell them that they hadn't answered my questions. I am still writing on 29 May 2017.

On 6th December 2010 I wrote to The Rt Hon James Paice Minister for Agriculture. I told him about Dr Henk Tennekes' research on the systemic neonicotinoid pesticides.¹ He said they

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20803795>

did irreversible damage to the brains of insects, that they were cumulative and that levels of imidacloprid (the first neonicotinoid) had been building up in Dutch surface waters since 2004 and that these levels correlated with declines in invertebrates and insect-dependent birds in Europe.² I had a dismissive letter on 24th December 2010 from CRD that mentioned none of these points. In May 2017 they are still on the market and the UK Environment Agency still isn't measuring levels of neonics in groundwater...despite the half- life of clothianidin in soil being 545 (13-1386 days) and in some soils up to 19 years.

The British Government refused to legislate on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides 21 October 2009: DIRECTIVE 2009/128/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT and rejected the EU advice³

Article 11 Use of pesticides in specific areas

EU Directive Advice: Use of pesticides can be particularly dangerous in very sensitive areas such as Natura 2000 sites protected in accordance with Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC. **In other places such as public parks and garden, sports and recreation grounds, school grounds and children's playgrounds, and in the close vicinity of healthcare facilities, the risks from exposure to pesticides is high.** In these areas, the use of pesticides should be minimized or prohibited. When pesticides are used, appropriate risk management measures should be established and low-risk pesticides as well as biological control measures should be considered in the first place.

Government Response: We do not consider it necessary to prohibit the use of pesticides in public spaces or conservation areas or to impose new statutory controls on pesticide use in these areas. **We believe that the UK can meet its obligations under the Directive through existing statutory and voluntary controls and develop additional voluntary measures.**

In December 2010 Lord Henley, the Under-Secretary of State for Defra, explained why the UK weren't going legislate. He said that the British had an "*ideological dislike of legislation*", there were "*dangers of over-legislating*." He said that decisions by the UK government on the European Union Directive (2009/128/EC) were based on "*robust scientific evidence*".

Why has ECP/CRD refused to write to Swansea City & County Council asking them to stop?

The British Government's failure to legislate for the benefit of industry is how the citizens of Swansea come to have Dakar Pro, a professional form of Roundup, sprayed in 2016 (518 kg over 3,000 km of city pavements) and in March 2017 alone 169 kg with the proposal to spray 3 times in 2017: "*over public parks and gardens, sports and recreation grounds, school grounds and children's playgrounds, and in the close vicinity of healthcare facilities*" **where the EU directive says: the risks from exposure to pesticides is high.**

UNVEILING THE GLYPHOSATE CONSPIRACY IN THE US (AND IN EUROPE)⁴

The story at a glance:

- Evidence now suggests taxpayers' money has been used to shield Monsanto and other pesticides companies from liability and obstruct consumers' ability to prove damages.
- Jess Rowland, former associate director of US EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs, appears to have aided and protected Monsanto's interests. Legal teams are now requesting that he be ordered to supply information about his work to ascertain the quid pro quo relationships.

² <http://disasterinthemaking.com>

³ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32009L0128>

⁴ <http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2017/05/10/glyphosate-conspiracy.aspx>

- Rowland's post-EPA work includes consulting for three chemical companies and that work involves a chemical in all three instances. All three companies are also close associates of Monsanto.

The same Monsanto scientist involved in the cover up of glyphosate was also involved in the cover up for Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)

The PCB conspiracy – new evidence in the current lawsuit against Monsanto reveals that Dr George Levinskas was involved in both the cover up for glyphosate and for PCBs⁵

In 2000 in an article from Alabama US: *The people versus Monsanto* Nancy Beiles wrote: ⁶
"Problem: Damage to the ecological system by contamination from polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB). Legal liability: Direct lawsuits are possible...In 1975 the lab submitted its findings from a study using rats. An early draft said that in some cases, PCBs had caused tumours. George Levinskas, a Monsanto manager, wrote to the lab's director: "May we request that the report be amended to say 'does not appear to be carcinogenic'." The final report dropped all references to tumours."

The British government was also involved in the PCB conspiracy...against Wales

Monsanto manufactured Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from 1930-1977 primarily for insulating fluids in heavy-duty electrical equipment in plants. Internal documents have surfaced showing that Monsanto knew about the health risks of PCBs long before they were banned. A document, dated Sept. 20, 1955, stated: *"We know Aroclors [PCBs] are toxic but the actual limit has not been precisely defined."* ⁷ Company papers subsequently released in America show that for more than 30 years Monsanto had sat on lab tests results that showed PCBs were fatal to rats and other animals.⁸

Monsanto also manufactured Agent Orange between 1961 and 1971 that was a mixture of equal parts of two herbicides, 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D. 2,4,5-T was banned because of its toxicity and frequent contamination with a dioxin, a chemical that is a carcinogen and a persistent organic pollutant. In addition to Agent Orange's damaging environmental effects, the chemical has caused major health problems for many individuals who were exposed. Up to 4 million people in Vietnam were exposed to the defoliant, with around 1 million now suffering serious health issues. The chemical is capable of damaging genes, resulting in deformities among offspring of exposed victims. The U.S. government has documented higher cases of leukaemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, as well as other various kinds of cancer in exposed veterans. Exposed US Veterans were compensated.⁹ The *New York Times* in May 2014 wrote a Report about its long toxic legacy to the Vietnamese as well: *"But Agent Orange's legacy was only beginning. More than 40 years later, it still casts a long shadow."*¹⁰

⁵ <http://sustainablepulse.com/2017/05/19/us-court-documents-show-monsanto-manager-led-cancer-cover-up-for-glyphosate-and-pcbs/#.WR6UubBSFDzI>

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2000/jun/05/features11.g2>

⁷ <https://www.ecowatch.com/monsanto-ordered-to-pay-46-5-million-in-pcb-lawsuit-in-rare-win-for-pl-1891143419.html>

⁸

http://www.theecologist.org/The_Brofiscin_Monsanto_Files/777777/burying_the_truth_the_original_ecologist_investigation_into_monsanto_and_brofiscin_quarry.html

⁹ http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/claims-postservice-agent_orange.asp

¹⁰ https://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/12/us/agent-oranges-long-legacy-for-vietnam-and-veterans.html?_r=0

Monsanto, at the invitation of the British Government led by Clement Richard Attlee, established a factory in Newport, Wales in 1949.¹¹ From then on they manufactured PCBs until 1977 and a number of other dangerous chemicals. Monsanto was found to be dumping toxic waste in the River Severn, public waterways and sewerage. After that they paid a contractor to illegally dump “*thousands of tons of cancer-causing chemicals - among them PCBs, dioxins and Agent Orange derivatives*” at two quarries in Wales: Brofiscin (80,000 tonnes) and Maendy (42,000 tonnes) between 1965 and 1972.¹² In 1968 US documents showed that Monsanto tried to decide whether or not to come clean about the dangers of the chemicals. They stopped making PCBs in Anniston US in 1971 because of scandals about PCBs on the health of the population and wildlife. However, the British government led by Ted Heath agreed to ramp up production at their Monsanto plant in Newport.

How does the area of Alabama (PCBs) compare with that of Wales?

Alabama is more than 50 million square miles: Wales is 8,000 square miles.

England has grand delusions that it is still running an Empire and the Welsh are its slaves.

Toxic waste from the increased production was dumped at five other quarries in Wales and one in the north of England. The UK government, which knew of the dangers of PCBs in the environment in the 1960s, allowed their production in Wales until 1977.¹³

*“From 1967 to 1974, Douglas Gowan represented farmers in the Taff area of South Wales, primarily as a legal adviser with an expertise in toxicology, having first gone to the area to investigate mysterious cattle and sheep deaths, and the abortions occurring in livestock, as a field officer for the National Farmers Union (NFU). He traced the likely cause of the deaths and abortions back to the Monsanto chemical plant in nearby Newport, where significant amounts of waste were being hauled daily to a nearby limestone landfill site operated by Purle Brothers. He was also alarmed by the foaming yellow and purple liquid he could see streaming from the quarry into the ditches and streams across the land.”*¹⁴ Doug Gowan completed his Report and all parties involved had a site meeting. Monsanto and Purle admitted the site was a real problem and unveiled a three-phase remediation plan to make it safe. The companies accepted 50/50 liability for the cost and agreed that it would be completed by the end of the year. According to *The Ecologist* article on 11 October 2007:¹⁵ *“It never was, and Gowan was dispatched to America by Geldards to seek further evidence. Here amongst other experts he met one of Monsanto’s chief scientists, Dr William Papageorge, who was known as the company’s ‘PCB Czar’. Dr Papageorge provided him with information that showed Monsanto had long been aware of the hazards of PCBs, and had conducted tests on rats in 1953 that either killed them or affected their reproduction.”*

What does Douglas Gowan know that everyone else wants to keep hidden?

Read the four articles from 2007 to see the extraordinary lengths to which the British government went to protect Monsanto and cover up the truth. ***“What does Douglas Gowan know that everyone else wants to keep hidden? For 40 years the story of Brofiscin Quarry –***

¹¹ http://www.eastman.com/Company/Worldwide/our_sites/Pages/Newport_SouthWales.aspx

¹² <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-435737/Monsanto-investigation-illegal-dumping.html>

¹³ <https://www.theguardian.com/guardian/2007/feb/12/frontpagenews.uknews>

¹⁴

http://www.theecologist.org/investigations/politics_and_economics/269077/exclusive_how_the_environmental_agency_is_gagging_one_eyewitness_to_what_is_potentially_one_of_the_uk_s_biggest_environmental_crimes.html

¹⁵

http://www.theecologist.org/The_Brofiscin_Monsanto_Files/777777/burying_the_truth_the_original_ecologist_investigation_into_monsanto_and_brofiscin_quarry.html

now the most polluted place in the UK – has been suppressed...” Jon Hughes and Pat Thomas reported for *The Ecologist*. “Documents have been mysteriously lost, witnesses silenced, scientific data ignored. But like the periodic explosions that issue from the depth of the quarry, the truth has a way of blowing up in our faces. Witness protection schemes are normally the preserve of supergrasses or *The Sopranos*, not people who volunteer evidence in response to a public appeal from a government agency. But that is the position 64-year-old Douglas Gowan finds himself in, having spent the past six months living under police protection. Since volunteering his evidence to the Environment Agency in early 2006 this retired corporate finance director has been subject to death threats, threatening callers to his door and numerous attempted break-ins. Consequently, at the turn of April his protection officers began to talk of placing him under witness protection.

In March 1969 Purle were dumping into the site on a daily basis and in wet but not stormy weather Gowan’s tests found about 500 gallons per hour of foaming yellow discharge with an average biological oxygen demand of 2400 parts per million (ppm). BOD provides a snapshot of the quality of a body of water – generally 10 ppm is considered very polluted.”

In 2003 when toxic effluent from the quarry started leaking into people’s streams in Grosfaen just outside Cardiff, the Environment Agency - a government agency concerned with flooding and pollution – was hired to clean up the site in 2005.

“Firstly, the Agency repeatedly failed to hold Monsanto accountable for its role in the pollution (a role that Monsanto denied from the outset). Secondly, the Agency consistently downplayed the dangers of the chemicals themselves, even claiming that they offered no “identifiable harm or immediate danger to human health” in their official report.”

According to engineering company WS Atkins, in a report prepared for the agency and the local authority in 2005 **but never made public**, the site contains at least 67 toxic chemicals. Seven PCBs have been identified, along with vinyl chlorides and naphthalene. The unlined quarry is still leaking, the report says. “Pollution of water has been occurring since the 1970s, the waste and groundwater has been shown to contain significant quantities of poisonous, noxious and polluting material, pollution of ... waters will continue to occur.

Sir Richard Doll was employed by Monsanto to say their chemicals were perfectly safe

“On three occasions Monsanto dispatched the late Sir Richard Doll to meet with Gowan. A scientific luminary of the day, who has latterly been exposed as publicly stating chemical compounds such as Agent Orange were safe while secretly being in the pay of Monsanto, Doll told Gowan that PCBs were safe and that Gowan didn’t know what he was talking about.”

No inquiry was held, the effects were minimized and the public was not informed

The official line – given by Graham Hillier (Adviser to Environment Agency Wales) in the press, by the minister of state for the environment at the Welsh Assembly and chief executive of the Environment Agency, in written statements, and by the Defra minister responsible in answer to an oral question to Countess Mar – is that the water at Brofiscin is safe and that dumping only took place towards the west end of the quarry and covers the area the size of a ‘swimming pool’. Only Pringle (the journalist who reported for the *Insight Series* in *The Sunday Times*) would speak to *The Ecologist*, and expressed bewilderment at the treatment Gowan was receiving. He stood by his *Insight* stories.”

Why do we trust Monsanto asks *The Ecologist* journalists?

The *Ecologist* article in 2007 goes on to comment: “Yet again, as in the Seventies, it seems strenuous efforts are being made to suppress Gowan’s evidence, which inescapably says we are sitting on an environmental health time bomb, which could erupt at any time. Inaction against Monsanto leaves not only the public purse exposed, but more importantly

public health. The implications are staggering. Could the political imperative be to keep the wheels on the 'knowledge economy'? For the past five years the government has actively promoted and planned future growth around this new tech revolution that includes GM crops, nanotechnology and smart materials. PCBs were smart materials. Monsanto released them into the environment knowing them to be a danger to public health and the environment. If we are not to go forward recklessly then people like Gowan have to be heard and lessons learned. Otherwise no amount of regulation can safeguard against that happening again."

What has happened to Peter Pringle now?

In 2001 he was the recipient of a Rockefeller Foundation research and writing grant. In 2005 he wrote a book: *Food, Inc.: Mendel to Monsanto--The Promises and Perils of the Biotech Harvest*: "In this urgent dispatch, he suggests that a fertile partnership between consumers, corporations, scientists, and farmers could still allow the biotech harvest to reach its full potential in helping to overcome the problem of world hunger, providing nutritious food and keeping the environment healthy." His website in 2017 makes no mention of Brofiscin Quarry or his Insight Series for *The Sunday Times*.

What has happened to the Sunday Times?

News International bought *The Sunday Times* and *The Times* newspapers in 1981. That is why the truth is hidden from the British people. There are five millionaires colluding with the British Government to control what people hear.

Harold Evans (Editor of *The Times* 1981-1982) in The Long Read on 28 April 2015: ¹⁶"The fact that they (Margaret Thatcher and Rupert Murdoch) met at all, on 4 January 1981, was vehemently denied for 30 years... Documents released by the [Thatcher Archive Trust](#), now housed at Churchill College, Cambridge, give the lie to a litany of Murdoch-Thatcher denials about collusion during the bidding for Times Newspapers... All the wretches in the subsequent hacking sagas – the predators in the red-tops, the scavengers and sleaze merchants, the blackmailers and bribers, the liars, the bullies, the cowed politicians and the bent coppers – were but the detritus of a collapse of integrity in British journalism and political life. At the root of the cruelties and extortions exposed in the recent criminal trials at the Old Bailey, was Margaret Thatcher's reckless engorgement of the media power of her guest that January Sunday. The simple genesis of the hacking outrages is that Murdoch's News International came to think it was above the law, because it was."

Le Monde: Stéphane Foucart a French investigative journalist at *Le Monde* has contributed to the collection of court documents in more than 50 lawsuits against Monsanto Co. which are pending in U.S. District Court in San Francisco, filed by people alleging that exposure to Roundup herbicide caused them or their loved ones to develop non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and that Monsanto covered up the risks. The lead case is 3:16-md-02741-VC. ¹⁷ He also revealed many things about the activities of the pesticides industry in Britain.

Süddeutsche Zeitung reviewed: PandaLeaks: The dark side of WWF

This South German newspaper, founded in 1945, published in Munich, Bavaria, is the largest German national subscription daily newspaper. "It paints the picture of an environmental organization rubbing elbows with industry; doing deals with the rich and powerful, the oil companies and GMO mafia, forgetting its goals and even losing its identity in the process." The newspaper in conjunction with the [International Consortium of Investigative Journalists](#)

¹⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/apr/28/how-margaret-thatcher-and-rupert-murdoch-made-secret-deal>

¹⁷ <https://usrtk.org/pesticides/mdl-monsanto-glyphosate-cancer-case-key-documents-analysis/>

reviewed the data from the Panama Papers for over a year before publishing it on 3 April 2016.

A witness statement; many cancers but the public was not informed

I was working in Cardiff Hospitals between 1969 and 1972 when Douglas Gowan was knee deep in Monsanto's toxic pesticide waste that was polluting Cardiff ground water, making measurements and communicating with eminent toxicological bodies for his Report

Some amongst my Cardiff colleagues and their families appeared to be suffering from an unusual number of cancers (at that time – the 1970s, but now common). No one had any idea why, since the leak of toxic waste from Brofiscin Quarry into the Cardiff water supply was not made public. We met yearly as a travelling group. One by one over the years our colleagues in Cardiff and Newport were afflicted by, and died from, a number of unusual cancers including leukaemia and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Monsanto found guilty in the US

However, in 2016 in the US Monsanto has finally been found guilty of gross negligence by selling poisonous PCBs to members of the public, some of whom died as a result.

The agrochemical and agricultural biotechnology giant has been forced to pay a total of \$46 million in damages to plaintiffs in the case.¹⁸

The UK government sides with the pesticides industry in the case of legal disputes

The UK government would ensure that any lawsuit against a pesticide company be reversed. Georgina Downs of Pesticides Campaign UK has fought legal battles against Defra. She had a landmark victory in the High Court in November 2008 that ruled that the UK Government's policy on pesticides was not in compliance with European legislation. It was the first known legal case of its kind to reach the High Court to directly challenge the Government's pesticide policy and approach regarding crop spraying in rural areas. However, the Court of Appeal overturned the High Court Judgment, only six months later, in May 2009.¹⁹

In fact, on 23/09/2013 the British Government joined forces with Monsanto, EFSA and the EU Commission to fight civil society in the EU Court²⁰ to defend the right to import Monsanto's transgenic soybean Intacta® which produces an insecticide and is resistant to glyphosate herbicides such as Roundup®.

PCBs are chemicals that persist in the environment and will never disappear from Wales

Theo Colborn's crucial research in the early 1990s into the chemicals that were changing humans and the environment was ignored

The late Theo Colborn²¹ (1927-1914) was the first to research and write about Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs), man-made chemicals that became widespread in the environment after WW II. In a book published in 1996, Our Stolen Future: How Man-made Chemicals are Threatening our Fertility, Intelligence and Survival, Colborn, Dumanoski and Peters revealed the full horror of what was happening to the world as a result of

¹⁸ <http://yournewswire.com/monsanto-loses-lawsuit-pays-46-million-to-poisoned-victims/>

¹⁹ <http://www.pesticidescampaign.co.uk/documents/PRESS%20RELEASE%20-%20DEFRA%20to%20appeal%20High%20Court%20ruling.pdf>

²⁰ <http://www.testbiotech.de/en/node/898>

²¹ <http://endocrinedisruption.org/about-tedx/theo-colborn>

contamination with EDCs.²² There was emerging scientific research about how a wide range of man-made chemicals disrupt delicate hormone systems in humans. These systems play a critical role in processes ranging from human sexual development to behaviour, intelligence, and the functioning of the immune system. At that stage, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides DDT, chlordane, lindane, aldrin, dieldrin, endrin, toxaphene, heptachlor, dioxin, atrazine and dacthal were identified as EDCs. Colborn illustrates the problem by constructing a diagram (page 105) of the journey of a PCB molecule from a factory in Alabama into a polar bear in the Arctic. Colborn says: *“The concentration of persistent chemicals can be magnified millions of times as they travel to the ends of the earth...Many chemicals that threaten the next generation have found their way into our bodies. There is no safe, uncontaminated place.”*

What happened to Brofiscin Quarry? As reported by *The Guardian* in 2015?

“By 2011, officials had concluded that the leaking of dangerous toxins from the corroding waste containers buried underground had the potential to pose a **significant health risk to local residents** and members of the public using a nearby footpath.²³

That same year, officials at the Environment Agency in Wales said that Monsanto, BP and Veolia were **liable for the contamination** and should pay the cost of cleaning up the site. All three companies refused to accept liability for the pollution, forcing the authorities that feared an expensive legal battle, to foot the £1.25m bill for the works, completed in 2012. Officials said at the time they would continue to attempt to recover the costs.

Now, three years later, Natural Resources Wales, which took over the role of Environment Agency Wales in 2013, confirmed that they had finally come to an agreement with Monsanto, BP and Veolia to cover the cleanup bill. However, all three continue to deny liability, and the value of the settlement has not been disclosed.”

What happened to Solutia? Allegedly it filed for bankruptcy in 2003, but emerged again in 2008 to sell the company

In 2007 *The Ecologist* had reported:²⁴ *“To date, the latest investigation into Brofiscin has cost £800,000. Any remediation is estimated at £100m. This figure could be dwarfed by associated civil actions relating to public health and planning. Monsanto has paid out approaching \$1 billion to cover the ongoing cost of remediation at Anniston and settle civil claims by victims of the pollution, and more cases are outstanding.*

Solutia Inc. will escape this outcome, as will Monsanto, if they can keep Gowan out of court – as without him there to be cross-examined, his witness statements become largely worthless.”

Solutia was formed on September 1, 1997, as a **divestiture** of the **Monsanto Company** chemical business. Solutia filed for **bankruptcy** on December 17, 2003, in response to significant litigation surrounding various products, unsustainable debt structure, and a downturn in the economy but emerged from bankruptcy on February 28, 2008.

What happened to the Newport factory?

In July 2012 the company (Solutia) was acquired by the **Eastman Chemical Company**.

²² Our Stolen Future: How Man-made Chemicals are Threatening our Fertility, Intelligence and Survival: Colborn, Myers and Dumanoski: Little, Brown and Company, New York. 1996.

²³ http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jul/14/monsanto-bp-veolia-agree-to-pay-for-cleanup-contaminated-welsh-quarry-site?CMP=share_btn_link

²⁴

http://www.theecologist.org/The_Brofiscin_Monsanto_Files/777777/burying_the_truth_the_organic_ecologist_investigation_into_monsanto_and_brofiscin_quarry.html

Report in South Wales Argus 26/04/2013: ²⁵ *More than 200 Newport jobs have been secured after the Welsh Government gave a £4.1 million grant to an American chemical company following a potential threat to move most of the posts overseas. Eastman is to invest tens of millions of pounds into a new plant at what is known as the Solutia site in Lliswerry. The Newport site beat off competition from three rival locations in the US and Malaysia and was helped by a £4.1 million grant from the Welsh Government. "Without Welsh Government support, the sources said, Solutia considered locating the project at a competing plant in Alabama, United States. Eastman is an international player. The fact that it is investing further in Newport is a major vote of confidence for the city."*

Alabama: that's a familiar name with regard to PCBs and Monsanto

Alabama is more than 50 million square miles: Wales is 8,000 square miles.

Eastman Chemical Company Board of Directors

There are also some familiar names on the Eastman Management Board.²⁶

Brett D. Begemann (Director since February 2011) Mr. Begemann has been President and Chief Operating Officer of Monsanto Company, a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products that improve farm productivity and food quality, since October 2013, with responsibility for Monsanto's worldwide sales and operations, corporate affairs, and global business organization. Other Directors of Eastman Chemical Company are: from Dow Chemicals, Dow Corning, General Mills, leading producer of packaged consumer goods and Cargill *Inc.*, an agricultural trading and processing company.

BBC Farming Today 18 March 2016: ²⁷ I wrote a complaint to the Director General of the BBC on April 5 2016 about reporting bias

When asked by the interviewer about the carcinogenicity of glyphosate, the President of Monsanto Brett Begemann dismissed as nonsense the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) statement that glyphosate is probably carcinogenic in humans. He said: **"I trust the science."** Why did the BBC not reveal the massive dispute between IARC and the German Rapporteur Member State BfR and EFSA's risk assessment of glyphosate? Why was Prof Christopher Portier not asked to speak on behalf of IARC? As usual I had no reply.

The Health and Safety Executive gave the Newport site a clean bill of health²⁸

"Safeguarding the environment. In the past, PCB, PCP, and chlorine were manufactured on site. These historical activities left a legacy of these substances at the site.

*Consultants completed a comprehensive risk assessment in 1992, to determine if these activities had resulted in any unacceptable risks. **This assessment concluded that the site was stable and did not pose a threat to health or to the environment as defined in the Contaminated Land Regulations.***

Since that time, we have replaced underground drains and 'capped' areas in a phased manner to reduce movement of these legacy substances.

The monitoring and management of the site continues. Residual legacy substances in the soil contribute to legacy substances in wastewater discharges from the site via site drains."

Out of the frying pan into the fire: to the test bed of Roundup further west

²⁵

<http://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/10382004>. 4m grant helps secure more than 200 Newport jobs/

²⁶ http://www.eastman.com/Company/About_Eastman/Leadership/Pages/BoardofDirectors.aspx

²⁷ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0739w6g>

²⁸ http://www.eastman.com/Company/Worldwide/our_sites/Documents/Newport_HSE_Review.pdf

In 1973 I swapped being poisoned by PCBs leaking into the Cardiff water supply for Monsanto's test bed for its flagship herbicide Roundup in Swansea, former centre of the mining industry where Japanese Knotweed grows freely in disturbed soil. Herbicides have turned weeds into invasive weeds. Japanese knotweed *Reynoutrie japonica* (syn. *Polygonum cuspidatum*) was introduced into Europe in the mid-16th Century by an amateur botanist from the Netherlands, Van Reynoutrie (syn: Karel van Sint Omaars). The myth that it was brought in by the Victorians in the late 19th Century, as stated by BBC Wales, has been deliberately spread, presumably by the pesticides industry. For about 500 years it appears to have caused minimal trouble, until the introduction of chemical herbicides in the early 1900s. However, even in the 1969 edition of the Marshall Cavendish Illustrated *Encyclopedia of Gardening*, knotweed was still being recommended as a suitable plant for gardens. In fact, with regard to the compact variety: "It is the most desirable garden form having received the RHS's Award of Merit." A member of the Balsam species *Impatiens roylei* (syn: *I glandulifera*) that was similarly recommended for garden cultivation has also become a monster on waste ground in urban situations.

Chemical herbicides: In 1941 2,4-D was discovered by scientists in the US and Rothamsted Research UK at the same time. It was commercialized in 1946, atrazine in 1958, dicamba in 1967 and glufosinate in 1991. Glyphosate was introduced into Europe in 1974 and became a global best-selling herbicide because the public was told by industry and the regulators that it was 'safe.' The public believed these assurances of safety therefore it was used repeatedly in the same areas so that weeds developed a resistance to it. Both plants became super-weeds and were classified as invasive species in the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act with a duty to eradicate them. In the US, the first confirmed Glyphosate-Resistant weed, rigid ryegrass, was reported in 1998. Super-weeds in the US in GE cropping systems are now a massive problem. "Since 1974 in the U.S., over 1.6 billion kilograms of glyphosate active ingredient have been applied, or 19 % of estimated global use of glyphosate (8.6 billion kilograms). Globally, glyphosate use has risen almost 15-fold since so-called "Roundup Ready," genetically engineered glyphosate-tolerant crops were introduced in 1996."²⁹

The British Government enjoys very close financial relationships with Monsanto, Syngenta, AstraZeneca, Bayer CropScience and Dow Chemicals

The UK government supported the Glyphosate Task Force (GTF), a consortium of companies joining resources and efforts in order to renew the European glyphosate registration with a joint submission (most companies produce their own formulated glyphosate products). In 2010 Michael Pragnell, founder of Syngenta and former Chairman of CropLife International, was appointed as **Chairman of Cancer Research UK** (CRUK) and by 2011 CRUK was donating money (£450 million/ year) to the Government's Strategy for UK Life Sciences and AstraZeneca (Syngenta's parent company) was providing 22 compounds to academic research to develop medicines in the UK.

One Corporation promotes cancer; the other Corporation tries to cure it.

Agent Orange, PCBs and glyphosate all cause genetic defects, so Britain has become the number one global centre for researching and finding cures for these diseases.

The Francis Crick Institute opened in 2016³⁰

"The Francis Crick Institute is a biomedical discovery institute dedicated to understanding the fundamental biology underlying health and disease. Its work is helping to understand why disease develops and to translate discoveries into new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, infections, and neurodegenerative diseases. An independent organisation, its founding partners are the Medical Research Council (MRC),

²⁹ <https://enveurope.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s12302-016-0070-0>

³⁰ <https://www.crick.ac.uk/about-us/>

Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust, UCL (University College London), Imperial College London and King's College London. *The Crick was formed in 2015, and in 2016 it moved into a brand new state-of-the-art building in central London which brings together 1500 scientists and support staff working collaboratively across disciplines, making it the biggest biomedical research facility under a single roof in Europe."*

The Wellcome Trust hosts the industry-funded UK Science Media Centre.

Another UK Government cover up – organophosphate sheep dips

Health & Safety Executive and Report (1990) – officially destroyed – has now been revealed: incriminating sheep dip poisoning

The UK Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) had made yearly sheep dips compulsory with organophosphorus compounds in 1979 and biannually in 1984 then suddenly stopped them in 1992. Farmer Tom Rigby, Sheep Dip Sufferers' Support Group, requested a FoI in 2015. He said: *"The information I want is HSE advice given to the government minister just before he decided to abandon compulsory dipping and the science behind and date of a government order that Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food inspectors must not go within 14ft of a sheep dip."* The HSE responded to the FoI request by telling Mr Rigby: *"The information you requested is no longer held by the Health & Safety Executive, having been destroyed in accordance with HSE's corporate retention policy".* A 'well-wisher' sent a copy to Mr Rigby.³¹

In the US there is compensation for Gulf War Veterans poisoned by organophosphates, but in Britain Defra denies that farmers' symptoms, some debilitating, are related to sheep dip and therefore no compensation is available.

In the UK there is silence about pesticides

According to William Engdahl³² here are some of the organisations that don't mention pesticides because they have a depopulation agenda

The Rockefeller Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the FDA, the USDA, the Wellcome Trust, Monsanto, Bayer and Syngenta.

What is the Oxford Martin Commission for Future Generations?

The Oxford Martin Commission doesn't mention pesticides either. Its mission statement: *"A diverse group of highly respected global leaders has called for a radical shake-up in politics and business to deliver progress on climate change, reduce economic inequality, improve corporate practices and address the chronic burden of disease."*

The Commission was founded in 2005. In that case why has the UK Global Burden of Disease in terms of health care quality and access in 2015 dropped to 30th out of 167 and is well behind many European Countries?³³

Professor John Beddington, Professor of Natural Resources, Oxford Martin Commission

We sent you a copy of our photo-journal, *The Year of the Bumblebee*, in 2010. How can these lovely creatures have disappeared without a biological killing agent being involved –

³¹

<http://www.sheepdipsufferers.uk/archives/HSE%20Report%20in%20OP%20poisoning%201991%20and%20comments.pdf>

³² www.williamengdahl.com

³³ [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(17\)30818-8/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(17)30818-8/fulltext)

(the BIOCIDE = KILLER OF LIFE), Roundup? This is the one that the Glyphosate Task Force, the European regulatory authorities, the European Commission, the British Government and many farmers in the UK and Europe are trying to renew the licence for.

When did Oxford University lose its way? Was it when the Global Corporations came in with money to offer for services? Sir Richard Doll the epidemiologist who, together with Austin Bradford Hill, worked out that smoking caused cancer became Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford University in 1969 and a Companion of Honour in 1996 for '*services of national importance*'. Only after his death it was discovered between 1976 and 2002 that he had been paid by Monsanto to defend Agent Orange and PCBs in Court.³⁴ He told Douglas Gowan that PCBs were safe and that Gowan didn't know what he was talking about.

Why does David Cameron hate Wales?

Polly Toynbee wrote in *The Guardian* on Friday March 7th 2014 "*David Cameron has mentioned Wales 29 times in Prime Minister's Questions, which sounds reasonable because he is its prime minister too except that every single mention has been derogatory and contemptuous. The Conservatives detest everything Welsh.*"³⁵

Nearly 70 million US citizens warned that GM crops and Roundup destroy human health and the environment: but David Cameron and the European Regulators ignored it

I first wrote to HSE on 13 February 2014 to tell them that Roundup had was destroying our nature reserve and poisoning the citizens of Swansea. We provided independent evidence. On 11 November 2014 nearly 70 million US citizens sent a letter hand delivered to 10 Downing Street telling David Cameron the dangers of GMO crops and Roundup to human health and the environment.³⁶ "*Through our experience we have come to understand that the genetic engineering of food has never really been about public good, or feeding the hungry, or supporting our farmers. Nor is it about consumer choice. Instead it is about private, corporate control of the food system. Americans are reaping the detrimental impacts of this risky and unproven agricultural technology.*"

It passed from David Cameron to the Defra Minister, Lord de Mauley. The European Commission and the European Food Safety Authority also received the letter. However the European Regulators have continued to approve GM crops to be grown for food and feed. In 2017 they are all trying to renew the license for glyphosate on behalf of the GTF.

According to Christoph Then at Testbiotech, the EU never intended to ban glyphosate³⁷

"24 May 2017 / The EU Commission has announced that it is planning to extend authorisation for glyphosate for a further ten years. The decision is based on the latest evaluation published by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in March 2017, declaring glyphosate to be safe. However, it appears that banning the herbicide was never seriously considered. In fact, the EU Commission approved 14 new import authorisations for genetically engineered plants resistant to herbicides even while official discussions on the evaluation of glyphosate were still in progress. All of these plants will contain residues from spraying. Several of the genetically engineered plants recently approved for import are not only resistant to glyphosate, but also to combined applications of other herbicides, such as 2,4-D, dicamba, glufosinate and isoxaflutole. These herbicides are also known to leave residues that are potentially damaging to health. It is particularly problematic that the EU is not requesting feeding studies with these plants containing residues to investigate any possible risks to health before they are approved. The combination of residues in the plants

³⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Doll

³⁵ <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/07/lessons-real-job-creation-wales>

³⁶ <http://www.theletterfromamerica.org>

³⁷ <https://www.testbiotech.org/en/node/1995>

can be even more toxic than glyphosate alone.

"In conclusion, no more genetically engineered plants should be authorised as long as comprehensive assessment of the health risks of the residues from spraying with glyphosate or other herbicides is not performed. At the same time, it is essential to promote alternatives to replace the current imports of animal feed. Furthermore, the EU governments should take measures to systematically reduce the spraying of glyphosate and other herbicides in order to protect biodiversity and the environment," Christoph Then demands for Testbiotech.

Glyphosate not classified as a carcinogen by the European Chemicals Agency despite the fact that it is also classified as 'toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects'³⁸

In Wales 'biodiversity and the environment' has already been destroyed: invertebrate declines in rivers made 2016 disastrous for salmon and trout in Wales³⁹

Leading fisheries charity, Salmon & Trout Conservation UK (S&TC UK) has brought forward its programme of river invertebrate monitoring on three rivers in Wales to support efforts by Natural Resources Wales (NRW), who are investigating the unprecedented threats facing rivers and salmon stocks in Wales. Shockingly, a recent report identifies that 61 per cent of Wales' water bodies do not meet 'Good Ecological Status' as required under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Earlier this year, S&TC UK's Riverfly Census in England, revealed that many rivers and chalk streams across the country were in a poor state because of pollution caused by human pressure, ranging from sewage treatment works, septic tanks and agricultural run-off to abstraction and degraded river habitats.

A note from Complete Weed Control, a national contractor, about aquatic weeds

"Although the Environment Agency has banned the use of herbicides in lakes and ponds they can still be used on emergent plants such as bull rushes and lilies.⁴⁰ It is also possible to use a dye or colourant which improves the look of the water as well as creating conditions that reduce photosynthesis therefore making it more difficult for algae to form."

Glyphosate on Giant Hogweed by rivers as well as Japanese Knotweed in the valleys

There was an NRW document about the River Usk.⁴¹ On page 12 it described the problem of another invasive weed, Giant Hogweed. *"Five spray teams are working on the project from Environment Agency Wales (now Natural Resources Wales). Extensive control work has continued in the growing season along the river between Crickhowell and Newbridge-on-Usk since 2006. A number of Forum events have been organised periodically to update and involve local riparian owners and river users on the progress of the project."* This was presumably Roundup/Dakar Pro.

On Page 55 of another NRW document there was a paragraph marked Evidence Gaps:⁴² *"Impacts of new and emerging chemicals and substances, such as neonicotinoid pesticides, nanoparticles and pharmaceuticals, on water quality and ecology."*

Neonicotinoid insecticides are not new. They were introduced in 1994. There is plenty of independent evidence that seeds coated with these insecticides act by causing virtually

³⁸ <https://echa.europa.eu/-/glyphosate-not-classified-as-a-carcinogen-by-echa>

³⁹ <http://www.salmon-trout.org/river-invertebrates-could-hold-the-key-to-abysmal-state-of-rivers-in-wales/news/403>

⁴⁰ <http://www.completeweedcontrol.co.uk/weed/services/aquaticweedcontrol>

⁴¹ http://www.naturalresources.wales/media/679394/2016_updated_usk_catchment_summary_nrw.pdf

⁴² <http://www.naturalresources.wales/media/679427/annex-chapter-3-final-for-publication.pdf>

irreversible blockage of postsynaptic nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs) in the central nervous systems of insects.⁴³

Biodiversity loss in South Wales where Roundup is sprayed on Japanese knotweed

In 2006 our nature reserve in Wales had 143 species of moth (some in numbers up to 500). In 2017 we have virtually none. Between 2006 and 2011 we had 22 species of butterfly. In 2017 there are very few butterflies and mostly of the 'white' varieties. Aquatic life only disappeared this year. Up until 2016 we had male dragonflies guarding the pond and nymphs hatching on emergent plants. ECHA needs a field naturalist to advise it on its natural history. **Moths, butterflies, spiders and beetles disappeared long before aquatic life did.**

19/12/2016 At least 1,000 fish have been killed following pollution of the River Teifi in Ceredigion, Natural Resources Wales has said.⁴⁴



Photographer: Steffan Jones. Caption: Dead fish can be seen in the river

Environmental officers said the water has been discoloured and believe the source was an agricultural site in the Tregaron area. Salmon and sea trout are among the dead fish and NRW said the number was "*rising*". Control measures have been put in place to stop the pollution spreading. The pollution was first reported on Saturday, with work on going to assess its extent. The group Sea Trout Wales said salmon and sea trout were "*already at critically low levels*" in the river.

What other chemical companies with a toxic legacy have been foisted on Wales?

Another chemical company close to Cardiff

Dow Corning's site at Barry in the UK is one of the company's largest manufacturing facilities. Dow Corning is an American [multinational corporation](#) headquartered in [Midland, Michigan, United States](#). Originally established as a joint venture between the [Dow Chemical Company](#) and [Corning Incorporated](#). [Silicone production started in Barry in 1952](#), initially by Midland Silicones and then Dow Corning in 1971. Continued investment throughout the decades has made the Barry site one of the most advanced facilities in the world for the production of silicon-based materials. Today the site's 500 plus employees manufacture and distribute high quality silicon-based materials to customers in Europe and other parts of the world. Silicone [fluids](#), [rubber](#) and specialty polymers made in Barry are used in a wide variety

⁴³ <http://disasterinthemaking.com>

⁴⁴ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-mid-wales-38366208>

of applications, from cosmetics to car airbag coatings and construction sealants. Over the decades Dow Corning's site at Barry has gained multiple awards that reflect a focus on excellence in [health and safety](#), employment and [corporate social responsibility](#) practices.

Dow: excellence in Health and safety and corporate social responsibility? What about Bhopal in India?

The Bhopal disaster occurred in 1984 and is described as *"The worst industrial disaster" to take place ever. "A few hours past midnight on Dec. 3, 1984, an accident occurred at a Union Carbide Corp. (UCC) pesticide plant in Bhopal in central India that left much of the city covered in a blanket of sickness and death.*⁴⁵

Water leaked into a tank containing highly volatile chemicals, setting off a massive exothermic reaction that could not be contained. Dozens of metric tons of lethal gas were expelled into the night.

This chemical cloud, which contained a form of cyanide, was soon blown southeast over residential areas. By morning, the dead and barely living filled the city's streets, hospitals and makeshift morgues. Thousands were killed, and nobody knew why.

Yet worse was to follow. In the three decades since the incident, up to [25,000 people have died](#), and over 500,000 have suffered a variety of ailments — cancer, tuberculosis and birth defects, among others — that stem directly from the effects of the leak. This painful aftermath has been met by indifference by the plant's former proprietors, the UCC, and its present parent company, the Dow Chemical Company. Both these U.S.-based multinationals continue to resist outstanding litigation claims, insisting that the cause of the leak was [employee sabotage](#). Today Dow is engaged in a legal standoff with the government of India over paying restitution for environmental damages in Bhopal and is refusing to even clean up the site of the plant, which is [still leaking](#) highly toxic substances into the local water system. Just last year, Dow brought in over \$50 billion in revenue, and yet it continues to deny liability when victims in Bhopal ask for basic assistance.

Even 30 years on, children are born with horrific deformities caused by the effects of the chemicals lingering around the rusting plant. Others fall sick because they have no choice but to drink poisonous water from wells contaminated by the disaster."

Wales is the site of the 'worst environmental disaster' that the public has never heard of because there was a massive cover up for more than 40 years

The continual leak of Monsanto's toxic chemicals will carry on for many years from Brofiscin, Maendy or one of the other five quarries around Wales in which toxic chemical waste was carried in the past by lorries bearing IWD/Purle and Monsanto logos.

Is there a depopulation agenda among the rich and powerful?

Threat of overpopulation

On the initiative of Bill Gates, in May 2009 some of America's richest people met to discuss ways of tackling a 'disastrous' environmental, social and industrial threat of overpopulation at the home of Sir Paul Nurse,⁴⁶ a British Nobel prize biochemist and President (elected in 2003) of the private Rockefeller University in Manhattan.⁴⁷ David Rockefeller Jr. hosted the

⁴⁵ <http://america.aljazeera.com/opinions/2014/12/dow-chemical-mustfinallyhelpthebhopaldisastervictims.html>

⁴⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/may/31/new-york-billionaire-philanthropists>

⁴⁷ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/billionaire-club-in-bid-to-curb-overpopulation/13736>

meeting. These same individuals have met several times since to develop *“a strategy in which population growth would be tackled...”*

The Rockefeller Foundation (RF) funded the earliest research on GMOs

The RF funded the earliest research on GMOs in the 1940s and founded the science of ‘molecular biology’ that reduced the complexity of life to a single gene that was not stable out of the test tube. It was called reductionism.⁴⁸ The RF’s 100th Anniversary Agriculture website says:⁴⁹ *“Since the 1970s, the techniques pioneered by the RF have been criticized for their environmental impact, for their relationship with big agribusiness, and for failing to eliminate hunger completely.”* The RF also founded the ‘Green Revolution’. *“As one analyst put it, in effect, the Green Revolution was merely a chemical revolution. At no point could developing nations pay for the huge amounts of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.”*⁵⁰

F William Engdahl wrote about the “Doomsday Seed Vault” on 4 December 2007

Near the small Arctic town of Longyearbyen on Spitsbergen, a “doomsday seed vault” is being built inside a mountain. It will contain a bank of up to 3 million different varieties of seeds from around the entire world, collected with the aim of conserving crop diversity for the future. The project is being funded, *inter alia*, by Bill Gates, the Rockefeller Foundation, Monsanto, the Syngenta Foundation and the Government of Norway.⁵¹

Suzanne Goldenberg on 20/05/2015 in The Long Read in *The Guardian*: [The doomsday vault: the seeds that could save a post-apocalyptic world](#) pointed out the flaws:⁵² *“Despite the laudable aim, the seed bank is misconceived: diversity cannot be boxed up and conserved in a container, no matter how secure it may be, and this corresponds to the practical experience of farmers, especially those in developing countries, which nowadays contain the greatest variety of plants. Indeed, since the environment, including pests and diseases, is always changing, crops are continually adapting in response and the “frozen diversity” of the seeds will likely make them completely unsuitable for the prevailing conditions whenever they are ultimately released, not least since global warming is likely to bring considerable, and unpredictable, changes to the environment.”*

Arctic stronghold of world’s seeds flooded after permafrost melts

In 2015 Goldenberg was correct: *“it is just an overpriced deep freeze”*. Damian Carrington reports for *The Guardian* on 19 May 2017:⁵³

“It was designed as an impregnable deep freeze to protect the world’s most precious seeds from any global disaster and ensure humanity’s food supply forever. But the [Global Seed Vault](#), buried in a mountain deep inside the Arctic Circle, has been breached after global warming produced extraordinary temperatures over the winter, sending melt water gushing into the entrance tunnel.

No seeds were lost but the ability of the rock vault to provide failsafe protection against all disasters is now threatened by climate change. But [soaring temperatures in the Arctic](#) at the end of the [world’s hottest ever recorded year](#) led to melting and heavy rain, when light snow should have been falling. “It was not in our plans to think that the permafrost would not be there and that it would experience extreme weather like that,” said Hege Njaa Aschim, from

³⁰ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/doomsday-seed-vault-in-the-arctic-2/23503>

⁴⁹ <http://rockefeller100.org/exhibits/show/agriculture>

⁵⁰ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/doomsday-seed-vault-in-the-arctic-2/23503>

⁵¹ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/doomsday-seed-vault-in-the-arctic-2/23503>

⁵² <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2015/may/20/the-doomsday-vault-seeds-save-post-apocalyptic-world>

⁵³ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/may/19/arctic-stronghold-of-worlds-seeds-flooded-after-permafrost-melts>

the Norwegian government, which owns the vault.”

The ‘global élite’ millionaires have been deceived by the chemicals industry that has created a flawed science just to make money

The so-called ‘global élite’ appear to be inadvertently poisoning themselves and their children, along with everyone else. They may be able to survive by eating organic food, but they cannot evade the pollution of water, soil and air by genotoxic and teratogenic herbicides and insecticides and the loss of biodiversity.

The US Congress, while voting for the DARK (“Deny Americans the Right to Know”) Act on behalf of Monsanto, is unknowingly eating food contaminated by neonicotinoid insecticides.⁵⁴ If they are currently voting for GM food not to be labeled, how will they themselves know what food contains GM and glyphosate?

David Gutierrez wrote on 07/08/2015: *“A bill pending before the US Senate would not just deny consumers the right to know whether their food contains GMOs, it could also strip states of their right to limit or regulate the use of dangerous herbicide chemicals widely sprayed over fields of GM crops. The bill in question, which passed a vote in the House of Representatives of July 22, is formally known as H.R. 1599, the Safe and Accurate”*. Food Labeling Act, but has come to be known by organic and natural foods advocates as the DARK Act” — because, far from ensuring accurate food labeling, the bill is actually designed to prevent the implementation of mandatory GMO labeling laws.⁵⁵

A biological desert: correlation of loss of biodiversity with glyphosate levels on an Iowa farm.

The State of Iowa was just one area in which the USGS reported widespread contamination with glyphosate.⁵⁶ Grundy County, Iowa was where Craig Childs spent a long weekend in a monoculture of GM “Roundup Ready” corn looking for wildlife.⁵⁷ “In this cornfield, I had come to a different kind of planetary evolution. I listened and heard nothing, no bird no click of an insect ... Mr Owen was the farmer who had given us permission to backpack across his cornfields. He grew a combination of DuPont and Monsanto stock. We were in DuPont now. It didn’t look any different to me.”

Robert Krulwich blog:⁵⁸ *Corn farmers champion corn. Anything that might eat corn, hurt corn, bother corn, is killed. Their corn is bred to fight pests. The ground is sprayed. The stalks are sprayed again. So, Craig wondered, “What will I find?” The answer amazed me. He found almost nothing. There were no bees. The air, the ground, seemed vacant. He found one ant ‘so small you couldn’t pin it to a specimen board.’ A little later, crawling to a different row, he found one mushroom, ‘the size of an apple seed.’ Then, later, a cobweb spider eating a crane fly (only one). A single red mite ‘the size of a dust mote hurrying across the barren earth, some grasshoppers, and that’s it.’ Though he crawled and crawled, he found nothing else. ‘It felt like another planet entirely,’ he said, a world denuded.*

In contrast,

“Yet, 100 years ago, these same fields, these prairies, were home to 300 species of plants, 60 mammals, 300 birds, hundreds and hundreds of insects. This soil was the richest, the loamiest in the state. And now, in these patches, there is almost literally nothing but one kind

⁵⁴ http://abcbirds.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/CongressionalDiningHallReport_July2015.pdf

⁵⁵ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/dark-act-would-cause-americas-crop-fields-to-be-saturated-with-cancer-causing-glyphosate-monsanto-roundup/5467889>

⁵⁶ <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jawr.12159/abstract>

⁵⁷ Childs, C. *Apocalyptic Planet. Field Guide to the Future of the Earth*, ch. 6, Species Vanish, p. 187. New York: Vintage Books (2013)

⁵⁸ <http://www.npr.org/sections/krulwich/2012/11/29/166156242/cornstalks-everywhere-but-nothing-else-not-even-a-bee>

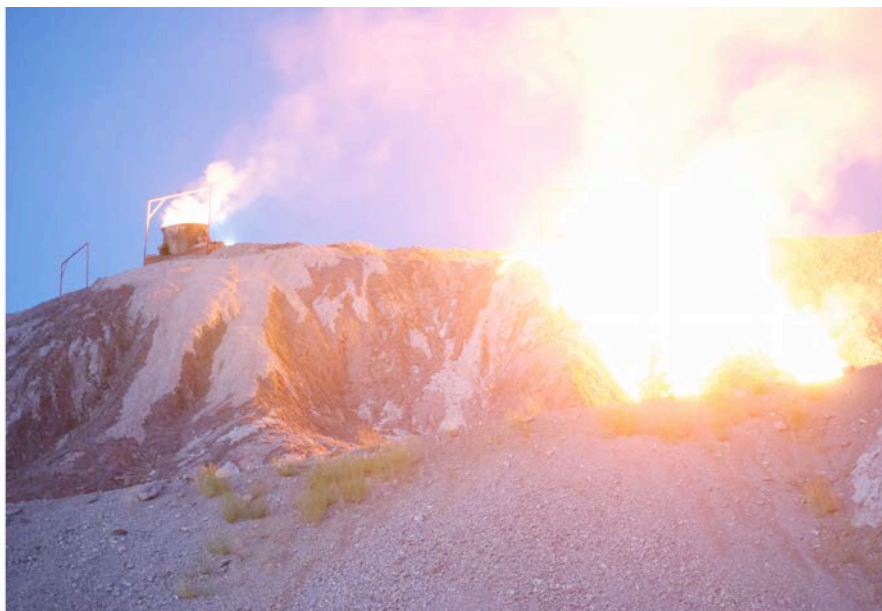
of living thing. We've erased everything else. There's something strange about a farm that intentionally creates a biological desert to produce food for one species: us. It's efficient, yes. But it's so efficient that the ants are missing, the bees are missing, and even the birds stay away. Something's not right here. Our cornfields are too quiet".⁵⁹

US wild bees are disappearing from most of the important farmlands⁶⁰

"The first-ever study to map U.S. wild bees suggests they are disappearing in the country's most important farmlands -- from California's Central Valley to the Midwest's corn belt and the Mississippi River valley. If wild bee declines continue, it could hurt U.S. crop production and farmers' costs," said Taylor Ricketts, a conservation ecologist at the University of Vermont, at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) annual meeting panel, Plan Bee: Pollinators, Food Production and U.S. Policy on Feb. 19 2017. GM Roundup Ready crops are being grown over much of US farmland.

Monsanto's Soda Springs plant in phosphorus mines Southeast Idaho operating since the 1950s was given toxic waste site designation in 1990 by the US EPA: it is currently active

[Bart Elmore](#), an assistant professor of environmental history at the Ohio State University and a Carnegie Fellow at New America wrote the following account:⁶¹ *"I obtained files from the EPA via a Freedom of Information Act request that tell the story of Roundup's origins at a [Superfund hazardous waste site](#). These documents show that there are disturbing environmental and human health concerns at the beginning, not just at the end, of Roundup's lifecycle. Monsanto's weedkiller comes from beneath the soil. The active ingredient in Roundup is glyphosate, which is ultimately derived from elemental phosphorous extracted from phosphate rock buried below ground. Monsanto gets its phosphate from [mines in Southeast Idaho](#) near the town of Soda Springs, a small community of about 3,000 people.*



Slag dumping at Monsanto's Soda Springs facility Idaho. By kind permission of Jon Zadra

⁵⁹ <http://www.npr.org/blogs/krulwich/2012/11/29/166156242/cornstalks-everywhere-but-nothing-else-not-even-a-bee>

⁶⁰ <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/02/170219165128.htm>

⁶¹ https://www.dissentmagazine.org/online_articles/monsanto-roundup-production-superfund-sites-radioactive

The company has been operating there since the 1950s...This dumping happened about every fifteen minutes, lighting up the night sky. Horses grazed in a field just a few dozen yards away, glowing in the radiating rays coming from the lava-like sludge. Rows of barley, for Budweiser beer, waved in the distance. Monsanto's Soda Springs plant [is currently an active Superfund site](#), having achieved that toxic waste site designation in 1990. The EPA offered a disheartening conclusion: "Monitoring trends indicate that the groundwater performance standards will not be met in the foreseeable future." Harmful onsite pollutants include cadmium, selenium, and radioactive radium all of which can cause serious health problems in humans in high concentrations." *Glyphosate residues were found in 14 German beers.⁶²*

Douglas Gowan had to have police protection until his Report was 'lost' and the danger of an Inquiry into Brofiscin Quarry was over but he is left with long-term effects of PCBs

*"Gowan has high levels of PCB in his blood – 30 times above the average – and suffers immune system suppression and muscular seizures that immobilise him. He is registered disabled. He told *The Ecologist* (2007) that he was recently threatened by telephone with having his benefits stopped if he continued to speak out. His unwelcome caller claimed to be representing the Treasury and Environment Agency".*

Monsanto's secret long-term studies on animals lodged with the US EPA

Anthony Samsel has obtained under FOI from the US EPA a large number of documents of long-term studies on animals that confirm that Monsanto knew glyphosate was carcinogenic, but like PCBs, concealed the facts.⁶³ One of Monsanto's secret studies in albino rats in 1990 showed glyphosate caused cataracts and eye damage.⁶⁴ This is number 4 in the series of 6 so far: [Glyphosate: pathways to modern diseases by Samsel and Seneff](#).

US EPA Glyphosate Issue Paper: Evaluation of Carcinogenic Potential⁶⁵

The US EPA dismissed Samsel & Seneff's five (now six) papers on Glyphosate: Pathways to Modern Diseases as 'not original work'.

Dr Don Huber speaking about GMO crops and glyphosate

"Future historians may well look back upon our time and write, not about how many pounds of pesticide we did or didn't apply, but by how willing we are to sacrifice our children and future generations for this massive genetic engineering experiment that is based on flawed science and failed promises just to benefit the bottom line of a commercial enterprise."

Rosemary Mason MB ChB FRCA

30 May 2017

⁶² <http://sustainablepulse.com/2016/02/25/german-beer-industry-in-shock-over-probable-carcinogen-glyphosate-contamination/>

⁶³ <http://www.amsi.ge/jbpc/31515/11SA15R.pdf>

⁶⁴ Stout, L.D. & Ruecker, F.A. Chronic study of glyphosate administered in feed to albino rats. Unpublished Study, Project No. MSL-10495. Monsanto Agricultural Company (2,175 pp.) EPA MRID 416438-01 (26 September 1990)

⁶⁵ <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0385-0094>