

01/17/17

MONSANTO

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COUNTY ADMIN CHUCK HUCKELBERRY, JUST HAD HIS SALARY RAISED \$8,000. FOR DOING A GOOD JOB? I GUESS PIMA COUNTY CAN AFFORD THAT THEY DO NOT NEED TO RAISE THE SALES TAX A ½% FOR LACK OF MONEY.

ESPECIALLY NOW THAT WE FIND OUT HE, HUCKELBERRY HAS BEEN IN **SECRET NEGOTIATIONS** TO GIVE A TAX BREAK TO MONSANTO FOR THEIR PLANNED GREENHOUSE AND ALSO USE THE FIELDS TO GROW THEIR CORN. THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS WILL NOT BE MINIMAL. THE MONSANTO CORPORATION IS WELL KNOWN FOR LYING. **TELL THE PEOPLE ANYTHING NOW AND THEN IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO STOP MONSANTO. AHH, TOO BAD.**

IN 1993, **THE CONCEPT OF SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENCE** WAS INTRODUCED BY THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—SOUNDS GOOD & IMPORTANT. HOWEVER THIS IS AN **INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMPANY—MAKING MONEY, NOT A PUBLIC HEALTH BODY.**

MONSANTO USES ROUNDUP & OTHER CHEMICALS THAT ARE KNOWN PROBABLE CARCINOGENS AS REPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER. THEY USE DICAMBA THAT CAN KILL CROPS & GARDENS MILES AWAY. **WHAT THEN WILL YOU DO?**

IT WILL BE TOO LATE. THE SOIL WILL B E DESTROYED AND THE WATER TAINTED.

**THE BOARD OF SUPVRS HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY** TO PROTECT THIS LAND & THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE NOW, THE PPL WHO WILL LIVE HERE IN THE FUTURE. I FOR ONE WILL MOVE OUT IF YOU ALLOW THIS

DEPLORABLE COMPANY TO DO WHAT THEY HAVE PLANNED AND TO ALLOW THEM TO DO WHAT THEY HAVE NOT & WILL NOT TELL YOU THEY WILL DO. IF YOU WANT YOUR TAX BASE TO BECOME SMALLER YOU ARE ON THE CORRECT ROAD. PEOPLE WILL MOVE OUT.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THE BD OF SUPVRS. DO NOT ENCOURAGE & ENTICE GOOD COMPANIES TO MOVE HERE BUT YOU GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO BRING MONSANTO IN? THIS IS ABSOLUTELY CRAZY.

GMO'S ARE ONE OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF THE EPIDEMICS IN THE UNITED STATES. BY THIS I MEAN: OBESITY, DIABETES, ASTHMA, INFERTILITY PROBLEMS, ORGAN DAMAGE, IMMUNE PROBLEMS,

GASTROINTESTINAL PROBLEMS, FOOD ALLERGIES, CANCER, ADHD & EVEN AUTISM. MANY OF THESE DISEASES, OVER TIME, HAVE INCREASED AFTER THE INTRODUCTION OF CHANGES IN OUR FOOD.

PEOPLE DON'T WANT GMO'S. GOING TO FARMERS MKTS IT IS WONDERFUL TO BE ABLE TO PURCHASE FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES FOR CONSUMPTION FROM LOCAL FARMERS WHO DO NOT USE INSECTICIDES. YOU WILL STOP THIS.

YOU WILL PUT THE PEOPLE-OF THIS COUNTY AT RISK & BUSINESSES— THAT PAY TAXES OUT OF BUSINESS & FOR WHAT?

A COMPANY THAT IS A KNOWN LIAR.

THINK CAREFULLY---WE ARE IN JEOPARDY AND SO IS YOUR FAMILY.

## Pollinator-Aware Farming

by Kathryn Keatley

There are many simple, inexpensive ways farmers and landowners can promote pollinator health. The three key steps to bee-friendly farming are: recognize, adapt and provide.

### RECOGNIZE

Understanding and identifying pollinator habitats is an easy way to start your own pollinator protection plan. The majority of farms are rich in potential pollinator habitats. Take a walk around your land and take note of critical bee habitats. Areas that attract bees include: field borders, windbreaks, fence lines, woodlots, areas around farmhouses, yards and buildings, waterways, pond edges, wetlands, ditch banks, south-facing soil embankments, utility line easements and hedgerows. Consult your local extension service for additional resources about native bee species and habitats in your area.

### ADAPT

Making even a few simple adaptations in farming practices and land management procedures can promote bee health and activity. Minimize disturbances to lowlands, pond borders and wet areas. These areas provide important water sources and plant resources for bees. Some bees, such as the mason bee, need clean mud to build their nests and rely on these riparian areas. Many pollinators, such as the sweat bee, live in underground burrows and need bare soil to nest and thrive. Leaving open areas around and near fields can promote these pollinator's health and productivity.

Using minimal or no-till field management practices also allows important pollinator populations to thrive. Many crops, such as forage mixes, can be sown directly into existing plant litter and require no tilling, and the presence of existing plant material adds organic matter to enhance soil health. Utilizing no- or minimal-till farming promotes soil health by minimizing erosion. Maintaining healthy soil improves crop yields and thus profits, reduces need for soil fertility inputs, and promotes the sustainability of land resources.

Land managers can allow field borders and fencerows to grow native plant species, such as goldenrod, milkweed, pussy willow, dandelion, yarrow, chicory and purple prairie clover, among many others, to attract pollinators. Erosion control is an added benefit of native growth areas, as many of these plants have deep roots that help hold soil in place and alleviate soil compaction and erosion. Most native plants pose little threat to agricultural fields, but identifying and eliminating non-native, invasive plants is a crucial part of land management and crop success. Herbicides are often used to eliminate invasive species, and they are responsible for killing off essential bee forage plants and destroying critical habitats.

### PROVIDE

Creating safe nesting sites for bees may take a bit of effort, but the returns are worth the effort. Some programs offer easements, reimbursements, or tax exemptions to landowners who plant plots of land to native plant mixes, such as prairie plants, that support local ecosystems. This type of land management program can be a good way for farmers to use less-accessible, or difficult-to-manage fields while promoting the health of pollinators and native ecosystems. When possible, avoid clearing tree lines and brush areas. Trees provide much-needed windbreaks for bees, and dead wood and fallen trees provide

protected nesting areas and spaces for bees to overwinter. Adding flowering cover crop species to crop rotations is a way to improve soil health and create valuable pollinator habitats. Using cover crops such as red, crimson, and alsike clovers, buckwheat, alfalfa and partridge peas serve as natural weed control in fields and provide forage for pollinators. These crops can be interseeded with other crops and orchard or vegetable plantings to create pollinator-friendly polyculture fields and help minimize weed pressure. Many flower-producing cover crops also add organic matter, nitrogen and other important nutrients to the soil which improves plant health and yields. Buckwheat, clover and alfalfa can be effectively paired with corn to promote weed control, nitrogen mobilization and restoration, and provide pollinator forage. Vetch, clover and other flowering legumes pair well with many grain crops promoting erosion control, nitrogen-fixing and pollinator forage.

Farmers and land managers play a vital role in providing our food supply with wholesome, nutritious foods, but they do not do it alone — pollinators play an essential and irreplaceable role.

you have designated pima County riparian areas - please add these steps for protection of them and review the gaps in your policies because you have no remedies for pesticide drift destruction.

Thank you

## Pima County Board of Supervisors Meeting – 1/17/2017

I strongly opposed the Foreign Trade Zone Designation and the 66% tax break that Monsanto is seeking. Monsanto is a Multi-Billion dollar corporation that can afford to and **should** pay its full amount of taxes just like all of the citizens and small businesses in Pima County. In fact, using Monsanto's figures for Fiscal Year 2016, it had a profit of \$3.6 million per day. This is not a company that needs a tax break. Instead, we should be offering breaks to local, independent farmers who are practicing environmentally healthy and sustainable farming and are the backbone of our thriving farmers markets and the local food movement. Contamination of these farms will jeopardize Tucson's prestigious title of UNESCO City of Gastronomy, the only city in the US to be awarded this title.

Per Foreign Trade Zone regulations, a zone must adequately serve "the public interest" and "must not be detrimental to public interest, health or safety, or pose unusual or unacceptable problems or hazards. This in and of itself should disqualify Monsanto from Foreign Trade Zone considerations.

Monsanto has a history of poisoning the surrounding air, soil and groundwater and then using the company's power and wealth to avoid the costs of cleanup. Their products are known to be hazardous to humans and all living things. It is known for producing Agent Orange, Round-Up (known to contribute to the decline of bees and a probably human carcinogen) and Dicamba, a highly toxic herbicide associated with lung cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, reproductive damage, birth defects and hormonal disruption. This threatens the health of the unique ecosystem of the Sonoran Desert, which brings tourists from all over the world, and it also threatens the health and quality of life of the citizens of this community.

This is the company, with its deplorable track record, that will be setting up shop 1.5 miles away from Marana HS.

The 7 acre greenhouse is a way to lull us into complacency, when the full plan is to eventually use the rest of the land for traditional ground production with all the spraying and chemicals that brings with it as well as use other local farmers to raise test plots. The research and experimentation done in the greenhouse will not stay contained as they say. This raises the issue of contamination of surrounding conventional and organic farms and

the economic impact this will have on those farms. Plus, Monsanto has a history of then suing the victims of this contamination for patent infringement.

The rationale for the tax break is that Monsanto will bring jobs... but, it is only 40-60 jobs, many of which will be part-time, with no guarantee that they will be local hires and the average salary will only be \$44,000/year. This does not warrant the kind of tax break they are seeking.

Do we want this community to be a beautiful green gem in the desert that people come from all over the world to experience or a chemical wasteland? Monsanto will not bring anything of value to our community. If **you** support this tax break, then **you**, the **County Supervisors** will be selling out the citizens of Pima County for a few measly jobs.

Thank You

Torrey Postal

January 17, 2017

STATEMENT TO PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RE: MONSANTO TAX INCENTIVE/PROJECT CORN

At the November 22<sup>nd</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting, The December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, the January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, as well as all of the District meetings held on this subject to date, the public has spoken with a resounding “no” on the Monsanto tax incentive.

I point out that those of us who are able to come and speak at these meetings represent multitudes more who feel the same but cannot be here, given that this is a day and time where vast numbers of the public are at work and not at liberty to miss work to attend this meeting. (I note that none of the meetings, not even the District meetings, have been held on a weekend.)

I am missing work to attend these meetings, which I’m at liberty to do only because I own the business, and it costs me a great deal to do so. So why I am willing to bear that cost to be here to speak to you? I’m willing to bear the cost because the income I’m missing in order to be here today won’t do me any good if there is no clean air left to breath, clean water to drink, or safe food left to buy.

Does that sound extreme? I don’t think it is given Monsanto’s track record.

Just days ago the Port of Portland filed suit against Monsanto, not stating a dollar amount, but asking for *clean up* of polluted waterways contaminated with Monsanto chemicals. (These damages are estimated to be in tens of million or hundreds of millions in this location alone.) This follows on the heels of Washington State filing suit against Monsanto for the same thing last month, as according to one article every waterway in the state of Washington was found to be contaminated with Monsanto chemicals. Port of Portland is the 10<sup>th</sup> public entity on the West Coast to file suit against Monsanto with similar claims. The suit alleges that “Although Monsanto knew for decades that PCBs were toxic and knew that they were widely contaminating all natural resources and living organisms, Monsanto concealed these facts and continued producing PCBs.” This sounds familiar, as it sounds a lot like the March 2015 report from NBC that Monsanto failed to report hundreds of uncontrolled releases of toxic chemicals at its eastern Idaho phosphate plant. To me this sounds like a Monsanto track record of hiding information from the public about the dangers of its products and activities.

Does this sound like a good corporate neighbor to usher into Pima County? I think not.

In the Board of Supervisors Memorandum from Administrator Huckleberry dated November 22, 2016, his recommendation included the notation that the Monsanto proposal would “not [risk] the residents of Pima County’s health, safety, or welfare.” The residents of Pima County keep showing up at your meetings to talk about the health and environmental concerns based on Monsanto’s track record because we strongly

believe offering an incentive or support for Monsanto could open the door for Monsanto to exploit our personal and environmental health, safety, and/or welfare.

I note that as far as the Foreign Trade Zone is concerned, there is an exception for things that are "detrimental to the public interest, health, or safety." (Source cbp.gov, the Customs and Border Patrol website).

Monsanto has a track record of products and practices that are detrimental to the public interest, health, and safety.

Vote "No" on Monsanto. In my opinion you could not find a worse corporate citizen than Monsanto. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Cori McGraw, J.D.

3920 E. San Simeon Dr.  
Tucson, AZ 85718  
(520) 208-1916

Pima County concerned citizen, voter, and business owner

I want to say Thank you <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ this Pima County Board of Supervisors, and Mr. Valadez, in particular, for the open meetings on this issue of modified corn production proposed <sup>within</sup> ~~for~~ our community. I have gotten to learn about some amazing technology in the concept of the greenhouse production of food. ~~with or without GMOs.~~

I have gotten to meet some knowledgeable, well-intentioned people on both sides of the issue, but must still take a stand against the whole concept of *GMOs*, Glyphosate and the next iterations of *GMOs*, stronger herbicides and insecticides. The result has been poor stewardship of our health and our planet. I reject the basic premise of this manipulation of science. The next step in my mind is to ask for the opportunity to meet with the Science Advisory Committee with the same free exchange of ideas and information.

I appreciate Patrick Cavanaugh, who has conducted these meetings with a fair and even hand, summarizing arguments reasonably well and posting accessible information from both sides on the Pima.gov website.

I have listened to John Post and other local farmers whose livelihoods they perceive as having been enriched, even saved, by genetically modified seeds and related herbicides. I conversed after the Marana School Board meeting, with his Dad, Dan Post, hearing about their continued use of good agricultural practices of crop rotation, fallow ground, alfalfa crops. That helps counter my <sup>concern</sup> ~~awareness~~ of the corporate, industrialized mono-culture farming that has followed in the wake of Monsanto's direct and indirect take-over of agriculture in the mid-West. There are good people in small scale farming out here in the independent West.

But none of that has changed the fact that this whole experiment of genetically modified foods and creation of killer herbicides and

pesticides has been bad for humans, animals, native environments, the soil, water and air. *and was pulled off without our consent.*

These fine scientists and farmers need to re-evaluate their priorities in life and find ways to use technology and their agricultural practices to once again work in harmony with God, nature and the environment and reverse this outrage. They need to see the results of their handiwork on their fellow farmers that raise animals for food which are increasingly sick with things those farmers have never seen before. It is only when they change their diets that they see dramatic improvement in the health of their animals and their livelihood is saved.

The same has happened for me and many other humans. However, humans are complex, sloppy subjects for science. Animals on the other hand provide a better assessment since variables can be better controlled. One change in food does the trick because they have no choice. They have to eat what they are given. There also can be no placebo effect.

This is adequate science and proof that this infiltration of our food supply has to stop. I would like to see it stop right here in Pima County, in the state of Arizona in the United States of America. We must take back our food sovereignty.

In our consideration today of whether Monsanto should come to Arizona particularly to Pima County to continue its production and use of pesticides and GMO seeds, I, as well as many others, and five plus organizations here in Tucson who spoke to Governor Hull's Committee in 1998, all of us are not in favor of Monsanto coming here, nor any other company they sell out to to continue their work, whether Bayer or any other.

The reason is because their products kill (injure and harm) people as well as the bugs, and our needed pollinators, bees etc. Why should we promote and allow such dangerous products to be used and produced in our county? Many of us came here for health reasons among which is to breathe clean air, drink clean water, eat good food, and preserve this area for future generations to do the same.

Pesticides are the number 1 killer of children. I know at least six adults that have died of pesticides in the Pima County area in the last ten plus years. I have almost died many many times from pesticides,

several times from Monsanto's Round Up.  
They have disabled me over and over again.  
Please do not use them anymore.

There are safer nontoxic products to use  
instead- Please promote these companies  
instead of Monsanto and its buyers etc.

We do not want the GMO seeds  
and its products of Monsanto either. They  
have negative affects on people too. We  
do not want our native seeds messed up  
either. Please do not allow them to come  
here.

Submitted to the Pima County Board of Supervisors for review  
by Dru Heaton on 01.17.17

‘SEC. 735. In the event that a determination of non  
4 regulated status made pursuant to section 411 of the  
5 Plant Protection Act is or has been invalidated or vacated,  
6 the Secretary of Agriculture shall, notwithstanding any  
7 other provision of law, upon request by a farmer, grower,  
8 farm operator, or producer, immediately grant temporary  
9 permit(s) or temporary deregulation in part, subject to  
10 necessary and appropriate conditions consistent with sec  
11 tion 411(a) or 412(c) of the Plant Protection Act, which  
12 interim conditions shall authorize the movement, introduce  
13 tion, continued cultivation, commercialization and other  
14 specifically enumerated activities and requirements, in  
15 cluding measures designed to mitigate or minimize poten  
16 tial adverse environmental effects, if any, relevant to the  
17 Secretary’s evaluation of the petition for non-regulated  
18 status, while ensuring that growers or other users are able  
19 to move, plant, cultivate, introduce into commerce and  
20 carry out other authorized activities in a timely manner:  
21 Provided, That all such conditions shall be applicable only  
22 for the interim period necessary for the Secretary to com  
23 plete any required analyses or consultations related to the  
24 petition for non-regulated status: Provided further, That  
25 nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the  
1 Secretary’s authority under section 411, 412 and 414 of  
2 the Plant Protection Act.’