

FOOD FIGHTS IN CALIFORNIA

County GMO Ordinances

GrowGmoFree.ORG
Paid for by The Committee for Humboldt Green Genes (#1264406) (707)826-1031 (707)442-3481 (707)923-1116 PO Box 4841, Arcata, CA 95518

NO on Q
It's Bad for Farmers.

No On "D"
Families & Farmers For
A Healthy Environment

YES Q
HEALTHY FARMS AND FAMILIES

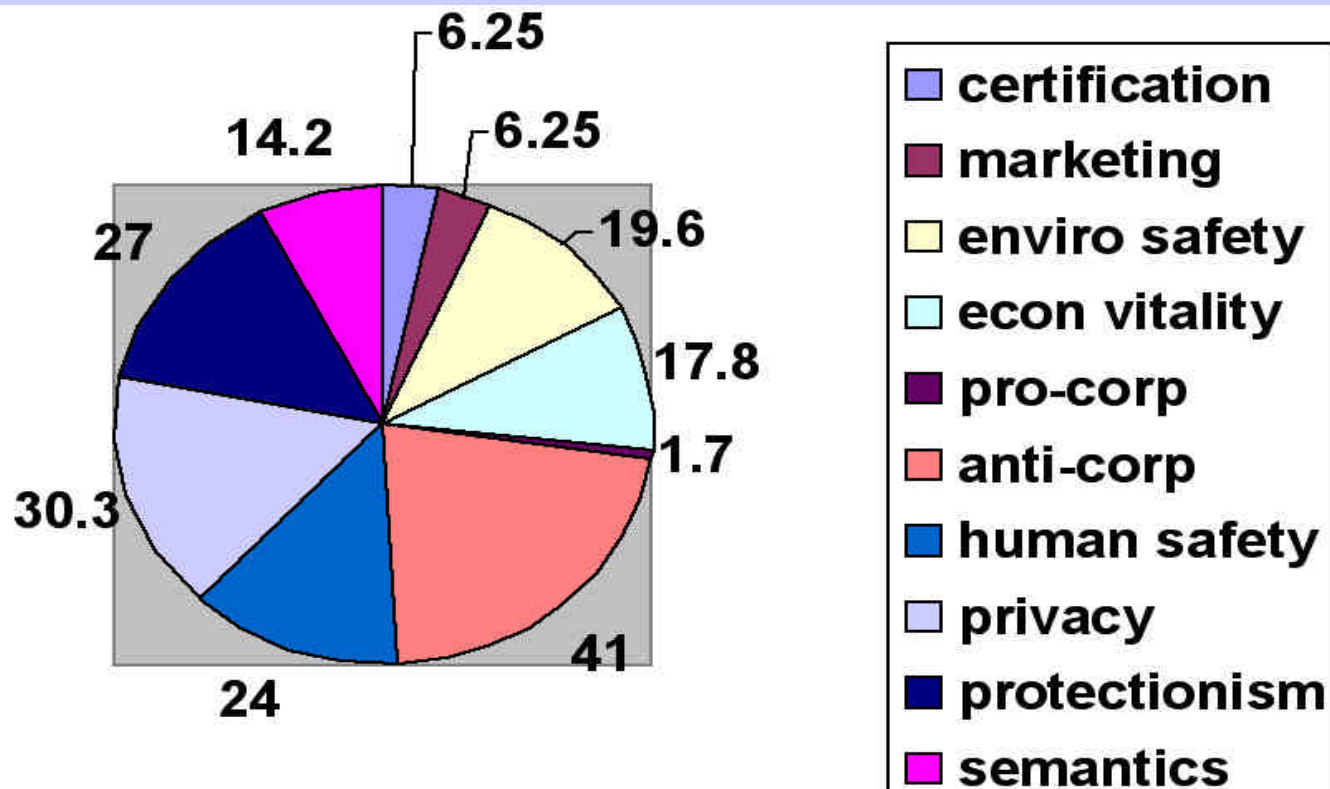
IT ALL STARTED IN
MENDOCINO
COUNTY



March 2004 MENDOCINO MEASURE H -2,579 signatures obtained

- “unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to propagate, cultivate, raise, or grow genetically modified organisms in Mendocino County” (excludes microorganisms)
- “DNA or deoxyribonucleic acid means a complex protein that is present in every cell of an organism...”
- The ban does not pertain to properties within city limits, or lands managed by State, Tribal and Federal agencies.
- At election time, no GE organisms were known to be in production in Mendocino County.

CHARACTERIZATION OF MEASURE H ELECTION RELATED MATERIALS IN MENDOCINO COUNTY



Giusti *et al.* (2004) Focus on Genetically Engineered Crops and Foods -
A Case Study from Mendocino County's Public Debate.

The discourse was driven in many cases by alarming assertions and facts that are not derived from, nor supported by science

“When my son was 6 month (sic) old and receiving chemotherapy for leukemia, he was also receiving soy lipids intravenously because he had lost the ability to eat or drink. The longer he received the lipids, the higher the dose of chemo. When I asked why, I was told that the soybeans used were genetically modified to be “Round Up Ready,” they were putting food into my son’s veins that could withstand the chemicals they were using to kill the leukemia blood cells, making the chemo less effective. In order to keep my son alive nutritionally, the higher doses of chemo almost took him away ”

Jenny Shattuck-Hale, Ukiah Daily Journal, 2/20/04



**DISCOURSE MOVED TO
OTHER COUNTIES**

**...THAT ARE MORE
AGRICULTURALLY
ORIENTED**



November 2004, Butte
Ballot initiative – 9,649 signatures

“Nothing in this Ordinance shall make it unlawful for (1) a fully accredited college or university to engage in scientific research or education using genetically engineered organisms under secure, enclosed laboratory conditions, taking precautions to prevent contamination of the outside environment, or (2) any licensed health care practitioner to provide any diagnosis, care or treatment to any patient”

~~Upon final determination that there has been a violation of this Ordinance, the Commissioner shall immediately thereafter cause to be confiscated for the public safety~~

“Upon final determination there was a violation of this Ordinance, the Commissioner shall thereafter cause to be confiscated for the public safety any such organisms...

effects which might result from the violation.”

**EXCERPTS FROM ORGANIC CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
LETTER DISSEMINATED BEFORE NOV. 2 ELECTION**

Dear Friends,

While the rest of the country focuses on one presidential candidate or another, Measure D represents Biodemocracy in action. Rarely do we have the opportunity to change the future of food and farming...

Contamination is spreading so quickly that we have little time to waste before our entire food supply is lost forever...

You have the opportunity to lay the foundation for a statewide ban on GE crops. California's future is organic!

Yours in organics,

Organic Consumers Association

www.organicconsumers.org

ELECTION RESULTS

MEASURE H MENDOCINO

NO 43%

YES 57%

MEASURE B MARIN

NO 39%

YES 61%

MEASURE D BUTTE

NO 61%

YES 39%

MEASURE M HUMBOLDT

NO 65%

YES 35 %

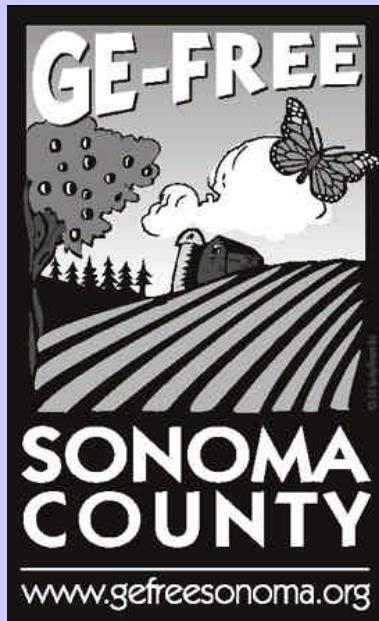
MEASURE Q SAN LUIS OBISPO

NO 59%

YES 41%

WHY DO WE NEED TO PASS THIS “GE-FREE” INITIATIVE

A “GE Free Sonoma County” will be good for our farmers, good for our environment, good for business, good for public health, and good for our democracy!



We need to protect the right to farm. Those farmers who choose to farm without GE crop varieties must have the right to do so...

- We need to prevent economic losses to Sonoma County's farms, ranches and fisheries. Those who knowingly grow, or are unwillingly contaminated by GE crops.

We need to protect our...environmental, public health and economic future...until there is public, peer-reviewed science available, with multigenerational studies on all the long-term impacts of these very new technologies, we must defend our farms, environment and food safety...

herbicides and pesticides used to kill new “super weeds” and “super bugs” created as farm pests evolve resistance to GE crops.

We need to protect the public health of the people of Sonoma County... Such exposure could occur through GE pollen inhaled or plants eaten, or by increased exposure to toxic herbicides and pesticides used to kill the new “super weeds” and “super bugs”...

term impacts of these very new technologies, we must defend our farms, environment and food safety by banning the release of GE organisms in our county.



SONOMA COUNTY ORDINANCE

Qualified for November 2005 Ballot

needed 40,000 signatures

Section 4. Prohibitions.

(a) It is unlawful for any person to engage in the propagation, cultivation, raising, growing, sale or distribution of transgenic organisms in Sonoma County.

(b) It is unlawful for any corporation or other legal entity to engage in the propagation, cultivation, raising, growing, sale or distribution of transgenic organisms in Sonoma County.

(c) Any act in violation of paragraph (a) or (b) of Section 4 of this Ordinance is declared to constitute an imminent endangerment of agricultural health and environmental health and as such is declared a public nuisance.

(d) It is beyond the authority of the governments of the United States or the State of California, or any of their agencies, to deny the right of the people of Sonoma County to prevent Agricultural and Environmental contamination from transgenic organisms.

(b) Nothing in this Ordinance shall make it unlawful for state or federally licensed medical or agricultural research institutions, medical or agricultural laboratories or medical or agricultural manufacturing facilities in Sonoma County to conduct licensed medical or agricultural research or production involving transgenic organisms whose reproduction in the environment can be physically contained (following USDA protocols and guidelines at the **BSL-3-Ag containment level or greater** as outlined in USDA Departmental Manual No. 9610-001).

Animal Biotechnology and Genomics Education

November 2004, Fresno

Passed: Board of Supervisors 5 For; 0 Against

- Whereas, biotechnology has the potential to greatly improve the health, nutrition and

County of Fresno affirms the right for farmers and ranchers to choose to utilize the widest range of technologies available to produce a safe, healthy, abundant and affordable food supply, and that the safe, federally regulated use of biotechnology is a promising component of progressive agricultural production.

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**Georgia
General Assembly**

May 9, 2005 - Senate Date Signed by Governor

05

LC 25 3839

Senate Bill 87

Pre-emptive Seed Laws passed in 14 states – pending in CA

provide certain exemptions; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**No county...shall adopt or continue in effect
any ordinance, rule, regulation or resolution
regulating the labeling, packaging, sale,
storage, transportation, distribution,
notification of use or use of seeds...**

notification of use, or use of seeds.

(b) This Code section shall in no way prohibit or impair the legal right of any county, municipal corporation, consolidated government, or other political subdivision of this state to issue business licenses or to make zoning decisions."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.



THE ORGANIC TRADE ASSOCIATION AND
FREE RANGE STUDIOS (MAKERS OF THE MEATRIX)
PRESENT

GROCERY STORE WARS

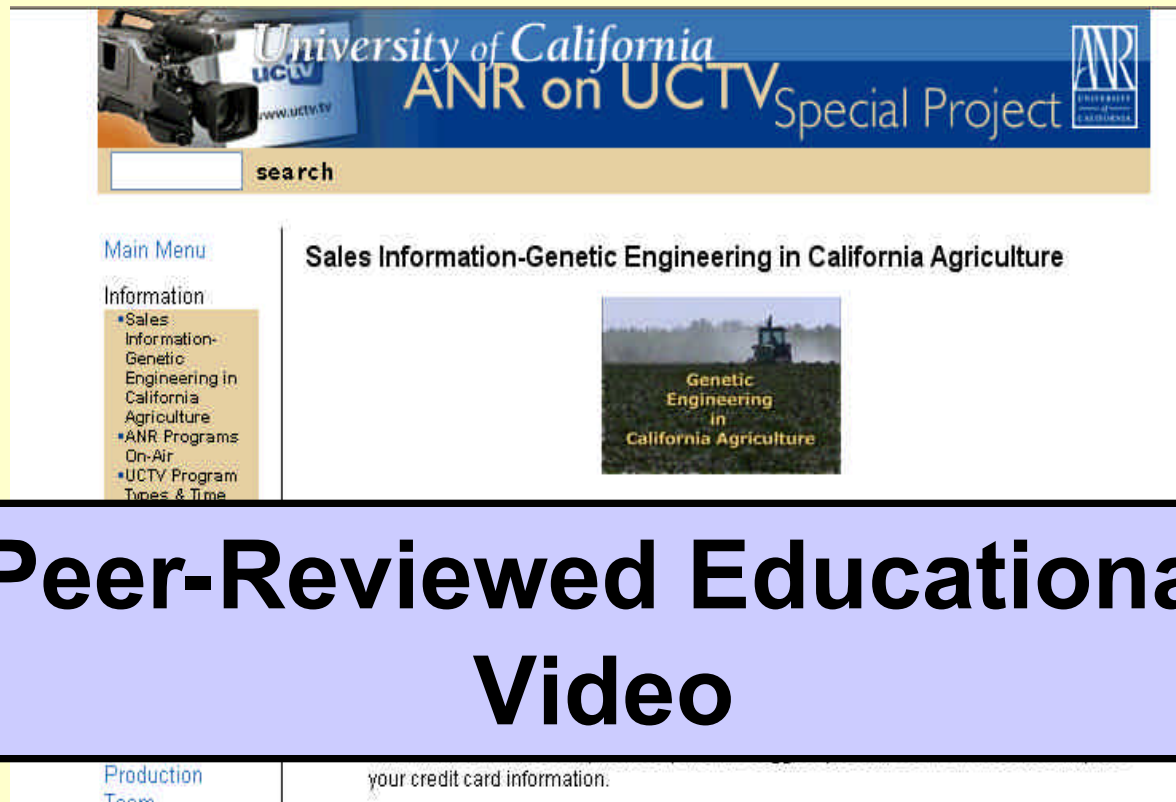
**VIDEOS AND ARTICLES ARE
AVAILABLE FOCUSED ON
AN ANTI-GE STANCE but...**

**WHAT EDUCATIONAL
ACTIVITIES DID WE CONDUCT?**

JOIN THE ORGANIC REBELLION!
WWW.STOREWARS.ORG

CONCEPT AND PRODUCTION BY FREERANGESTUDIOS.COM



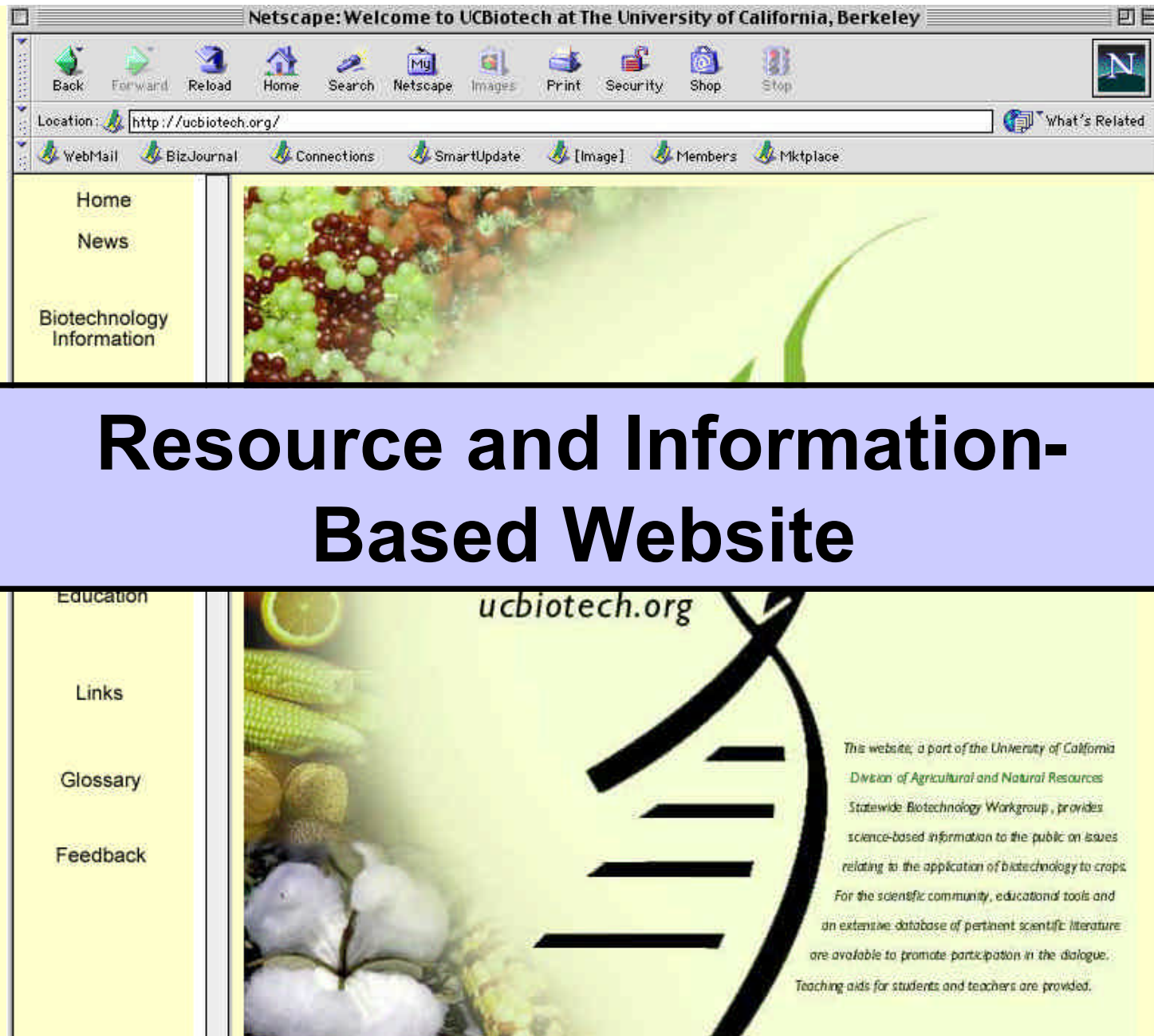


Peer-Reviewed Educational Video

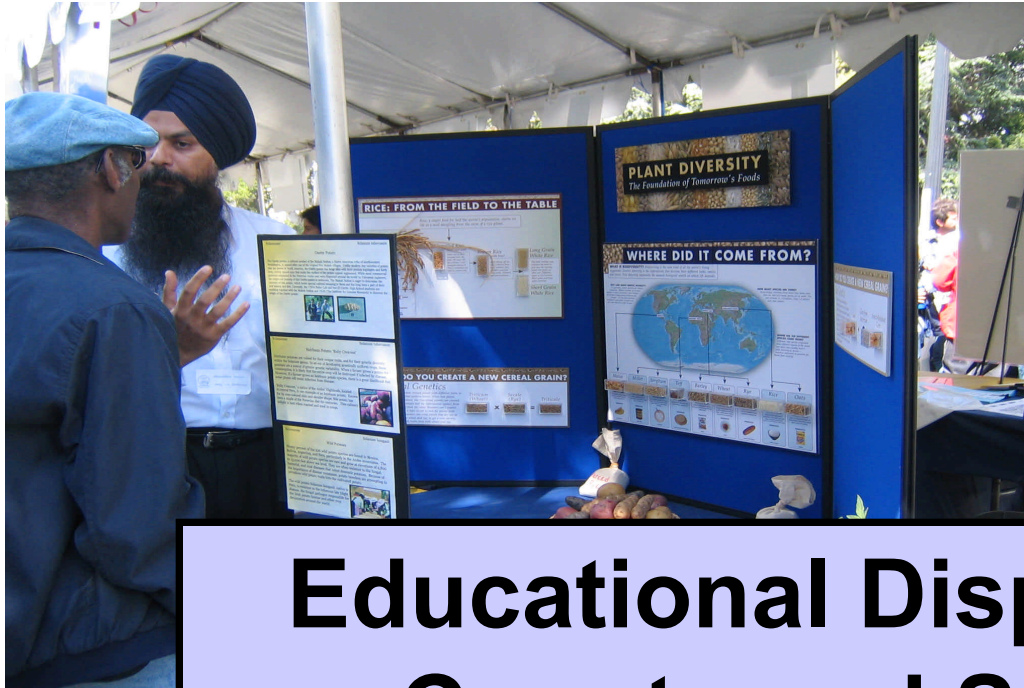
A 30-minute, peer-reviewed video explaining the science behind genetic engineering, its uses in food crops and animals, where and why the technology is being used by California farmers, and some of the science-based concerns pertaining to the use of genetic engineering.

If you want to view the movie

mms://STREAM.ucanr.org/Windows Media/UCTV_04_06.asf



Resource and Information-Based Website



Educational Displays for City, County and State Events





Informational Workshops for County Officials and Staff

Letters from our readers

In our opinion

Remember there are two sides to every story

The editorials in the article regarding the loss or omission of organic certification if an organic crop is contaminated with GMO pollen is ludicrous! I don't want to see organic crops destroyed. If I had a vegetable garden, I would not want to see it destroyed. That is my right. If I had a vegetable garden, I would not want to see it destroyed. That is my right. If I had a vegetable garden, I would not want to see it destroyed. That is my right.

GMO initiative

By GLENN ANDERSON
The Daily Journal

County supervisors voted to place on the ballot a measure that would prohibit the planting of genetically modified crops in Mendocino County. Supervisors' decision for the initiative as a ballot measure was turned in enough to be on the ballot.

We endorse Measure H!



CRAIG BELL



KATRINA FREY

YES on Measure H

Mendocino considers ban of genetically engineered plants

NORTH COAST

Letters from our readers

see, the last time I checked, this band of multi-national corporations includes food leaders in the genetic engineering of food crops. Incidentally, they just happen to be the leading producers of the herbicides and pesticides which their patented GMO seeds are designed to use exclusively. It's also interesting to note a Novartis study from the Northwest Center in Mendocino County concludes that the herbicide use in 1999 was 30% more than in 1998.

Informational Pieces for Newspapers

Employers hear from scientists on GMOs

By MARK JACOBSON
The Daily Journal

What might come along? "strawberries resistant to molds, tomatoes not attacked by nematodes, grapes resistant to Pierce's disease, drought-tolerant lettuce, and peppers resistant to bacterial diseases," to name a few.

UC Extension specialist

DR. LUOTO



TONY CRAVER

Join us!

- Protect our farmers!
- Protect our economy!
- Protect our environment!
- Protect our private property!

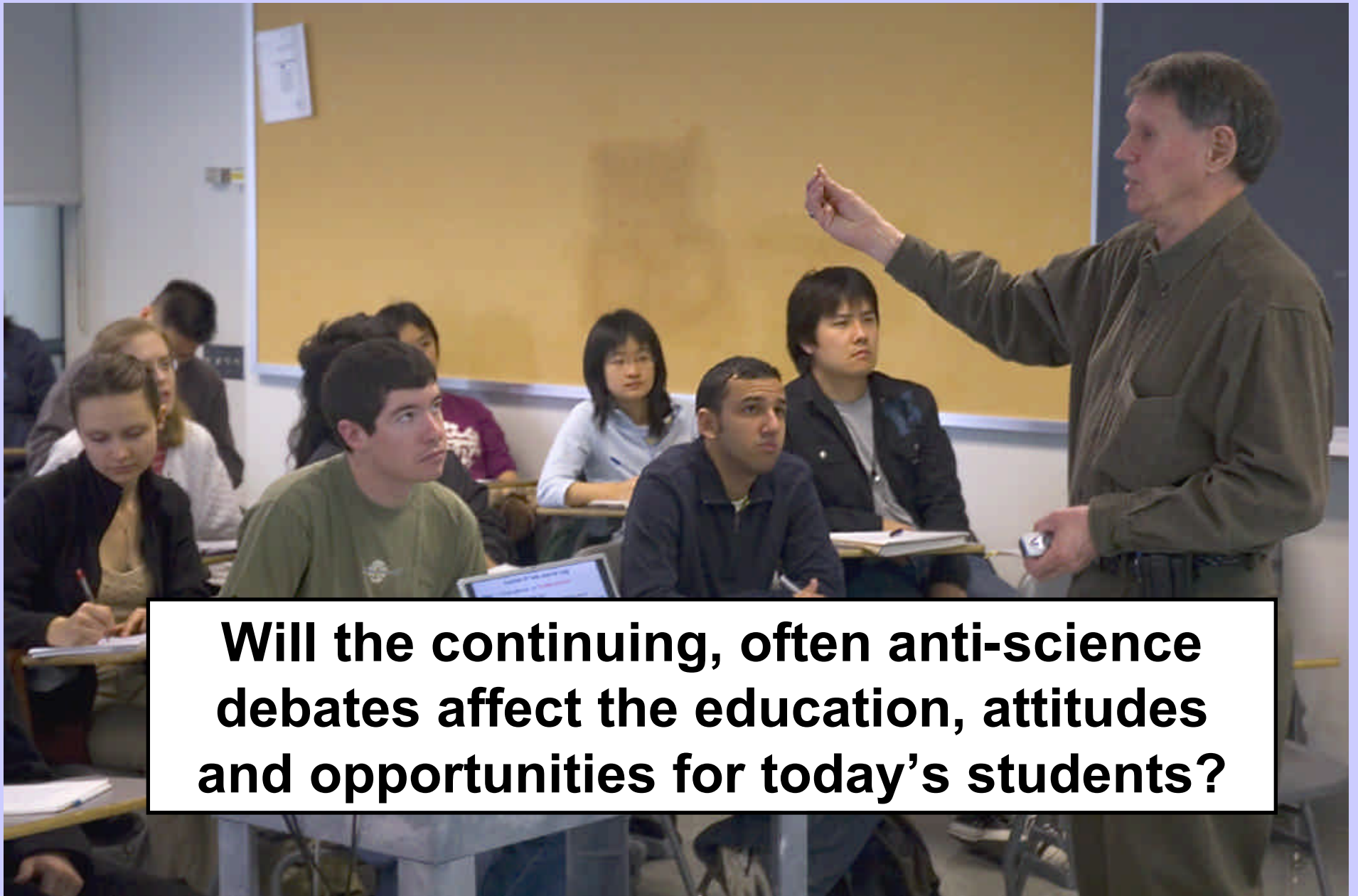
Keep Mendocino County GMO FREE!

GMO issue misunderstood

To the Editor:

White article on GMOs, is where is the list of corporations and organizations that have agreed that the GMO petition should be rescinded? Mendocino Organic Network can provide a corresponding list of Mendocino County citizens who support the GMO petition. (www.mendocinonoorganicnetwork.com)

Second, the petition does not prohibit birds, animals, fish, fire retardant, native plants, soils, cattle birds, bees, coffee, wines, apple juice, etc., etc. If you wish to purchase genetically modified foods available in your supermarket, you are free to do so. What the petition does prohibit is the growing of live genetically modified organisms that by pollen and other means can cross-pollinate with natural grapevines and other non-GMO food crops and destroy their marketability, and subject those who consume these crops to uncontrolled health risks and seriously disrupt the local ecosystem. This does not require the labeling of GMOs.



Will the continuing, often anti-science debates affect the education, attitudes and opportunities for today's students?