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## New genetically engineered corn raises concerns

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### LIVING GREEN, LIVING WELL

New genetically engineered corn raises concerns  
Dow Chemicals is seeking approval in the US for a genetically engineered (GE) corn that is resistant to the pesticide 2,4-D. This chemical herbicide...

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Meat production is a major source of nitrogen in our environment. Nitrogen pollution is a growing problem: it's unhealthy for the Earth, you and...

Greening Manitoba's Provincial Budget  
As part of Manitoba 2012 Provincial Budget Consultations, Green Action Centre submitted its list of proposals to the Province to make Manitoba's economy and budget more environmentally sustainable.

Environmental Leaders and Youth WANTED!  
The Manitoba Environmental Youth Network is looking for environmental leaders who have experience in helping successfully complete an environmental project. After gaining valuable skills, these leaders will assist a small group of young Manitobans in implementing a project and creating positive environmental change in Manitoba.

Peg City Car Co-op Video 2: Simplicity!  
See the second video in the Peg City Car Co-op Video Series. Member Chris usually travels to work by bus and bike, but finds that the car co-op helps him live more simply, visit the suburbs, and get out of awkward situations!

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Dow Chemicals is seeking approval in the US for a genetically engineered (GE) corn that is resistant to the pesticide 2,4-D. This chemical herbicide is a major ingredient in Agent Orange, a defoliant widely used during the Vietnam War. It is a possible a **possible carcinogen** and is suspected of being an endocrine disrupter. It has been linked to health problems including non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, lowered sperm counts, liver disease and Parkinson's disease. Ontario has banned the use of 2,4-D for cosmetic uses because of concerns over the product: "There's been very little study done over the years as to the cumulative effect," said [Ontario Environment Minister John Gerretsen](#) in 2009. However, USDA approval will dramatically increase use of this dangerous chemical.

The drive to develop 2,4-D resistant corn is tied to the proliferation of **superweeds** that are evolving in response to increased use of Monsanto's Roundup resistant GE crops and excessive use of Roundup herbicide. Farmers are on a pesticide treadmill forced to adopt more and more toxic technologies to adapt.

If Agent Orange Corn is approved in the US, it will soon be on dinner plates and on grocery store shelves in Canada also. Experience with genetically engineered crops shows that once they are widely introduced into the field, contamination is inevitable. Moreover, the Canadian government considers **harmonizing** Canadian and US crop approvals a priority.

The [Centre for Food Safety](#) is leading a campaign to demand that the US stop the approval of Agent Orange corn.

More food issues on Green Action Centre's [Food Page](#).

Posted by Josh Brandon in [Living Green, Living Well](#).

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