

# FLASH UPDATE

<http://agentorangezone.blogspot.com/>

Wednesday, February 20, 2013

## [New GMO 'Agent Orange Soy' Silently Backed by USDA](#)

<http://naturalsociety.com/gmo-soy-agent-orange-2-4-d-herbicide/>

Millions of pounds of herbicides are applied to crops around the nation each year. In one single year, 2006, 96.7 million pounds of glyphosate was sprayed on soybeans alone; this is a 20-fold increase from the 4.9 million pounds in 1994, the year before Monsanto's Roundup Ready seeds were introduced. Well now, biotechnology giant and creator pesticides and herbicides, Dow AgroSciences is bringing forth brand new GMO soybeans and GMO corn to the market that will ultimately cause more herbicides than ever to be sprayed across the nation. What's more, the USDA is all over the idea.

## 2,4-D Herbicide and Super GMO Crops

And perhaps even more startling than the drastic increase in herbicide usage is the fact that Dow AgroSciences' new genetically modified soy is actually specifically designed to resist an especially toxic herbicide known as 2,4-D, a toxic compound used in the well-known Vietnam War defoliant Agent Orange. Known to kill or maim at least 400,000 and cause an additional 500,000 birth defects according to conservative Vietnamese estimates, Agent Orange is one of the deadliest concoctions on record.

As of now, biotech giant Monsanto still has a tight grasp on the corn and soybean market, with approximately 90 percent of soy and 70 percent of corn engineered to drown in Monsanto's best-selling herbicide Roundup. However, it seems that their control over this market may soon dwindle at rapid speeds, as Roundup is creating a whole new category of superweeds that are resistant to Roundup and the active ingredient in Roundup - [glyphosate](#). These resistant weeds were expected by experts to [cover at least 120 million hectares](#) worldwide by 2010.

READ MORE: <http://naturalsociety.com/gmo-soy-agent-orange-2-4-d-herbicide/>

## [Farmer vs. biotech: Supreme Court will decide if soybean seeds get copy protection](#)



Today, the [Supreme Court is set to begin hearing a case](#) between agrochemical giant Monsanto and a farmer who figured out a way around Monsanto's strict requirement that its customers buy new varieties of its genetically modified soybean seeds every year.

The farmer, 75-year-old Vernon Hugh Bowman, [attempted to grow two soybean crops on his farm](#) beginning in 1999. The first crop was Monsanto's

patented genetically modified soybeans, which are resistant to the company's weed-killer chemical Roundup. Then Bowman planted another crop using cheaper mixed soybean seeds purchased from a grain elevator, which are usually used for livestock feed and not grown for human consumption.

But the many of seeds Bowman bought from the grain elevator also contained Monsanto's patented genetic modifications, and though the company can't stop farmers from selling their leftover Monsanto seeds to grain elevators, it does have agreements prohibiting its customers from saving its seeds from year to year. Because he acquired Monsanto's seeds through this cheaper resale channel and grew them in the same fashion as seeds bought direct from Monsanto, the company sued Bowman for patent infringement, [winning an \\$84,000 judgment](#) in Indiana district court in 2007. Monsanto has sued hundreds of other small farmers for the same reason, and many have settled, but Bowman's is the first case to be heard by the nation's highest court.

Monsanto has sued hundreds of other small farmers for the same reason

READ MORE:

<http://www.theverge.com/2013/2/19/4002670/supreme-court-farmer-patents-monsanto-soybean-seed>

## Monday, February 18, 2013

### [REGISTER NOW: IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO CHILDREN OF VIETNAM VETERANS](#)



<http://agentorangelegacy.com/2013/02/register-now-important-message-to-children-of-vietnam-veterans/>

Vietnam Veterans of America Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee is asking the children of Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange; adult children (we recommend you register your children also) who are ill and/or have birth defects, learning disabilities and/or mental health issues; to register with Birth Defect Research for Children, Inc. National Birth Defect Registry. Participation in the registry includes:

- Completing an online questionnaire which can be found at this link: <http://www.birthdefects.org/registry/>
- The questionnaire will ask about you (the child) or your disabilities; health and family history of both parents; exposures during pregnancy and occupational exposures.
- A special section will ask about the veteran's service in Vietnam. This section was designed in collaboration with the New Jersey State Agent Orange Commission.
- Collected data will be used for a study of the pattern of birth defects and disabilities that have been most frequently reported in the children of Vietnam veterans.
- All data are confidential. Your permission would be requested before any researcher would get in touch with you.

For more information contact Betty Mekdeci, 407-895-0802 or send email to [betty@birthdefects.org](mailto:betty@birthdefects.org).