



Press release

Translation

No to genetically modified seeds and plants in allotments

At its meeting on 8 December 2010 the “Ligue Luxembourgeoise du Coin de Terre et de Foyer” – “Gaart an Heem” resolved to associate itself with the “Luxembourg sans OGM” [*No to GMOs in Luxembourg*] initiative.

Surveys show, that two thirds of the Luxembourg population are opposed to the use of genetically modified plants. Without tackling in detail the risks in respect of reduced biodiversity, economic dependence on a multinational corporation and/or the unintentional transmission to wild flora and other cultivated plants, there is extensive evidence that GMOs represent a danger to health. In tests on animals fed with genetically modified food, the effects most frequently observed are:

1. A significant increase in mortality amongst newborn animals, smaller and weaker newborns
2. An increased incidence of asthma and allergies
3. Infertility and damage to the immune system
4. Absorption of recombinant DNA into the animal's own genetic make-up
5. Mutations in vital organs and in the gastrointestinal tract

Added to this is the fact that, in America, which, more than any other country in the world, has committed itself to the unconditional use of genetic modification, the medical profession is now ringing the alarm bells. The American Academy of Environmental Medicine (AAEM) has called in this regard for GM foods generally to be avoided. Moreover, it advocates a general moratorium on such foods until such time as they are clearly labelled and pending publication of the results of long-term studies. In addition, genetically modified foods are suspected of being responsible for other medical conditions which cannot easily be verified by means of animal testing.

In view of all these findings, it is our duty to prevent the planting of genetically modified plants in agriculture and horticulture.

Marianne Beissel

General Secretariat

Nico Nosbusch

Jean Kieffer

President