

SLO GE Free 2008 Corn Survey

By Jesse Arnold

Genetically engineered Bt corn was developed by the Monsanto Corporation. It is created by inserting into the DNA of the corn a gene from a bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* which produces a toxin that kills the corn earworm. Bt corn is registered with the EPA as a pesticide, but approved by the Food and Drug Administration for human consumption and no labeling is required.

From May through July, SLO GE Free conducted a survey of all the growers of sweet corn we could find in San Luis Obispo County. The results are reported in the grid below. SLO GE Free thanks all those who responded to the poll.

Growing & Selling	Chaparral Gardens	Chase Farm	Chesebrough Farm	dark Valley Farm	Huasna Valley Farm	Jack Creek Farm	MtOlive Organic Farm	Overly Growers	Park Organics	Rutiz Farms
Are you growing genetically engineered (GMO) corn, also known as Bt corn or Roundup Ready Corn?	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
If you are growing genetically engineered corn, are you labeling your corn as genetically engineered/GMO?										
Are you growing certified organic corn?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
If you are growing certified organic corn, are you labeling your corn certified organic?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No		Yes		No	
Do you sell your corn at retail?	Avila & Shell Beach markets	CSA Subscription Farm	Farm stand	Farmers markets & CSA	CSA	Farm stand	Fanners markets, Farm store		Farmers market	Farm stand
Contamination Concerns										
Are you aware that genetically engineered corn is being grown at two locations in San Luis Obispo County?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Are you concerned that genetically engineered corn being grown in the County might contaminate your field or seeds?	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	Yes	Yes	No