The GMO story in only three minutes - script

In the past, farming was as simple as this: the farmer replanted and **harvested** **according to** the natural cycle. However, recently, things got a little bit more complicated. Big machines and chemicals made their way into the **fields** and intensive farming was born. Production **boomed** but **at the expense of** nature. Farming became an environmentally damaging activity. It also became very lucrative for agrochemical companies who produce pesticides. Profit **overtook** the public interest. Seeking to constantly expand their bottom line, agrochemical companies became to play with GMOs (genetically modified organisms) but what is a GMO?

It is an organism which has had an external gene artificially inserted to give it new properties, for example corn. Here’s the DNA that will be modified then you find the organism containing the new gene to be introduced. Animals, plants, **bacteria… the spectrum** of living organisms is wide…. Not this one… not this one… Ah this \*bacteria here is just the one.

We **isolate** the gene. We introduce the DNA into the corn and there we go. This is called transgenetifying. With transgenetifying, the natural cycle is short-circuited. For thousands of years, seeds were produced naturally by plants. Now, they’re produced in laboratories.

Today, there are two types of GMO made: those that produce their own pesticides and those that resist certain herbicides…. But as a result of being exposed to them, **weeds** and insects develop a resistance to these products. They **mutate**. In order **to get rid of** them, you have to use higher doses of chemical products or different pesticides. **On top of this**, there is the risk of genetic contamination though **unintended** **crossbreeding**, GMO genes can modify the genetic code of other organisms… and that’s not to mention the fact that there’s no reliable study on the long-term impacts of GMOs on **health.**

Big agrochemical companies are also trying to control seed distribution around the world. Packets are being **granted** on seeds and other life forms. If a farmer wants to replant, he will be obliged to repurchase seeds and the weed killer that goes with them, **not to mention** other pesticides. The exclusion from seed production makes the farmer totally dependent financially.

The agrochemical multinationals are imposing GMOs on the planet. After the USA and South America, it’s now the turn of Asia and Southern Africa.

**Once upon a time**, farming looked something like this. **Nowadays**, fields look more like this. The polycultures and biodiversity of southern countries have been **swallowed up** by monocultures with the sole aim of producing vegetable protein for mass animal **husbandry** in the industrial countries. Who now knows that most **processed foods** contain genetically modified soya, **maize**, **rape** and that the same GMOs also serve to feed the animals whose products we consume? Granted in Europe is compulsory **to label** food of vegetable origin but not animal products… and this information is in any case in very small print. This **lack of** transparency **prevents** consumers **from** having a free choice.

But being able to choose GMO-free products helps the development of local agriculture, encourages biodiversity, promotes the financial independence of farmers and reduces the **overwhelming** power of the multinationals.