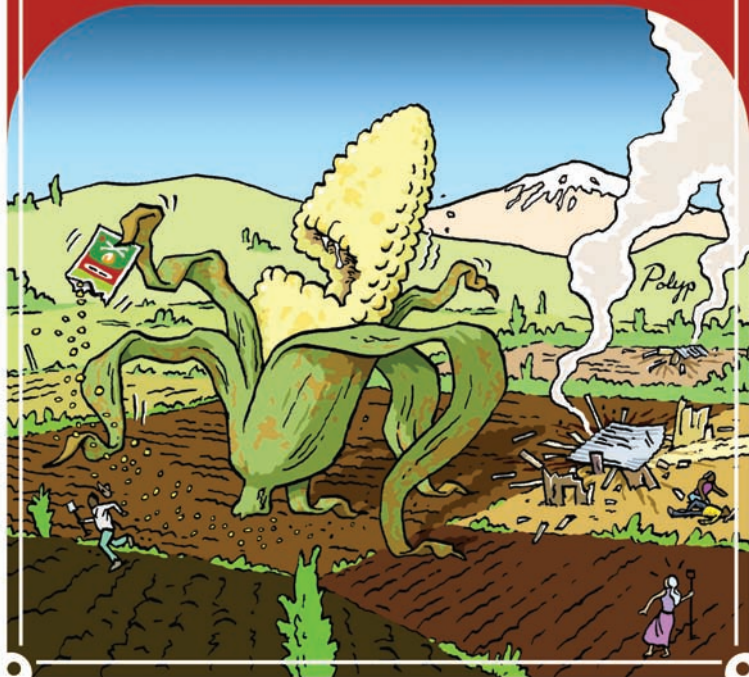


WARNING: TERMINATOR SEEDS MAY
EXACERBATE WORLD *HUNGER* AND *POVERTY*
IF RELEASED INTO THE ENVIRONMENT!

SAY NO TO TERMINATOR SEEDS



1: WHAT ARE TERMINATOR SEEDS?

TERMINATOR SEEDS ARE SEEDS THAT ARE GENETICALLY MODIFIED TO BECOME **STERILE** AFTER THE FIRST PLANTING. THE BIOTECH SEED COMPANIES SAY THE TERMINATOR GENE WILL STOP GENETICALLY MODIFIED SEEDS FROM **CONTAMINATING** OTHER CROPS. BUT THE TERMINATOR GENE COULD ITSELF SPREAD TO OTHER SEEDS, MAKING THEM STERILE – WITH **CATASTROPHIC** CONSEQUENCES FOR FARMERS, BIODIVERSITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

'ZOMBIE' SEEDS – A FORM OF TERMINATOR SEEDS THAT CAN BE 'BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE' BY TREATING THEM WITH A CHEMICAL – ARE JUST AS BAD FOR PEASANT FARMERS. WITH TERMINATOR OR 'ZOMBIE' SEEDS, FARMERS HAVE TO BUY NEW SEEDS OR CHEMICALS FOR EVERY CROP – **MAKING THEM POORER**, AND THE BIG SEED COMPANIES RICHER.

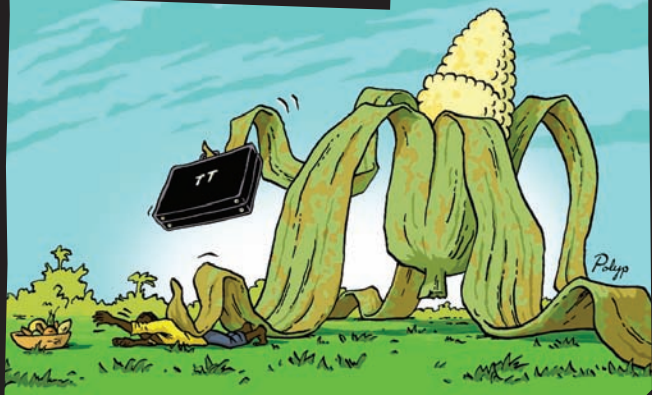


POOR FARMERS – ESPECIALLY THOSE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO GROW FOOD FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES – HAVE THE **MOST TO LOSE** IF TERMINATOR SEEDS GET THE GO-AHEAD.

2: HOW WILL PEOPLE FEED THEMSELVES?

MANY FARMERS IN POOR COUNTRIES **CAN'T AFFORD** (AND **DON'T WANT**) TO BUY SEEDS EACH YEAR. INSTEAD, THEY **SAVE, SWAP AND SHARE SEEDS** THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED OVER GENERATIONS TO THRIVE IN LOCAL SOILS AND CLIMATES. THIS MEANS THEY CAN GROW A RANGE OF CROPS TO **FEED THEIR FAMILIES** – AND SELL ANY SURPLUS IN LOCAL MARKETS.

TERMINATOR SEEDS COULD SPELL AN END TO THIS PRACTICE OF SAVING AND REPLANTING SEEDS – AND SO **TAKE CONTROL** OF MEETING THEIR OWN FOOD NEEDS OUT OF FARMERS' HANDS.



3: WHY SHOULD I CARE?

IN MOST CULTURES AND FAITHS, SEEDS ARE SYNONYMOUS WITH **LIFE, FERTILITY** AND **GROWTH**. TERMINATOR SEEDS ARE IN COMPLETE CONTRADICTION TO THESE FUNDAMENTAL VALUES. FAR FROM HELPING TO TACKLE POVERTY, THEY WILL INCREASE **ECONOMIC INJUSTICE** AND ADD TO THE BURDENS OF THOSE ALREADY LIVING IN **HARDSHIP**.

THE UNITED NATIONS **CONVENTION ON BIODIVERSITY (CBD)** SAYS TERMINATOR SEEDS SHOULD NOT BE SOLD UNLESS WORLD-WIDE STUDIES PROVE THEY POSE NO THREAT TO PEOPLE OR THE ENVIRONMENT. **THESE STUDIES HAVE NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT**, BUT THE BIOTECH SEED COMPANIES ARE STILL PRESSING AHEAD, ENCOURAGED BY THE READINESS OF MANY COUNTRIES – INCLUDING THE UK – TO **TURN A BLIND EYE** TO THE BAN.



TO STOP TERMINATOR, IT'S CRUCIAL THAT THE NEXT CBD MEETING (IN MAY 2008) STRENGTHENS THE BAN SO THAT COUNTRIES LIKE THE UK CANNOT IGNORE IT. PLEASE MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD – WRITE TO YOUR MP NOW!

4: TO BE A SEEDSAVER...

1. TEAR OFF THE REPLY CARD ATTACHED TO THIS LEAFLET.
2. WRITE THE NAME OF YOUR MP AT THE HEAD OF THE LETTER (IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE NAME OF YOUR MP, YOU CAN FIND OUT AT WWW.PARLIAMENT.UK/PEOPLE).
3. SIGN THE LETTER.
4. FILL IN YOUR OWN NAME AND ADDRESS DETAILS.
5. SEAL THE REPLY CARD AND POST IT TO US. **WE WILL SEND IT ON TO YOUR MP IN A TERMINATOR SEEDS PACKET!**

BE A SEEDSAVER ONLINE
— FIND OUT MORE AT
WWW.SEEDSAVER.ORG.UK...

VISIT OUR SEEDSAVER
GROUP AT FACEBOOK...



TERMINATOR SEEDS THREATEN POOR PEOPLE'S FOOD SECURITY — THEIR ABILITY TO GROW OR HAVE ACCESS TO **FOOD TO EAT**. PLEASE STAND UP FOR POOR FARMERS AND **PEOPLE STRUGGLING AGAINST POVERTY** THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, BY URGING THE UK GOVERNMENT TO STRONGLY **SUPPORT THE CBD BAN** ON TERMINATOR.

SAY NO TO TERMINATOR SEEDS

Dear _____ MP

I am concerned that Terminator technology - a form of genetic modification of seeds that makes them sterile after the first planting - could threaten the rights and livelihoods of over 1.4 billion poor farmers throughout the developing world.

These farmers depend on farm-saved seeds to grow food for their families. Terminator genes could contaminate their crops, passing on sterility genes and resulting in significant yield losses. Terminator technology could also force farmers into economic dependence on external seed sources, and ultimately make world hunger and poverty worse. (You can find out more about these concerns at www.progressio.org.uk/terminator)

I ask you to write on my behalf to the UK government expressing my concerns about the potential commercialisation of Terminator seeds by multinational seed companies. Please urge the government to do all in its power to persuade the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (at its next meeting in May 2008) to maintain and strengthen its moratorium on the development of Genetic Use Restriction Technologies such as Terminator.

Please write on my behalf to the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for International Development.

Yours sincerely

(signature)