WPHA
Western Plant Health Association

## WPHA's Response to Re-release of Giles-Seralini Study

The *Environmental Sciences Journal* has republished Dr. Eric Giles-Seralini's 2012 study on long-term rat feeding. His study attempts to link GMO traits to tumors and other health effects in rats. This is a republication of a previously retracted study from *Food & Chemical Toxicology*. The Western Plant Health Association (WPHA) is disappointed that *Environmental Sciences Journal* has chosen to publish a study that has already been discredited by scientific experts and governments around the world. The continued promotion of sensational but highly flawed scientific studies only serves to raise unfounded fears in the general public and damages constructive dialogue between all parties.

The study by Dr. Eric Giles-Seralini is not a new study. It is a republication of his earlier work and has been thoroughly discredited and rejected by the scientific community. The study in fact had earlier been retracted by *Food & Chemical Toxicology* because of its failure to observe basic scientific protocols and methodologies and its conclusions are considered invalid.

Simply republishing this study in another journal doesn't make the study any less flawed. To our knowledge the serious issues that compromised the integrity of this study have not been addressed or corrected. The study's standing within the scientific community is still considered scientifically invalid and implausible worldwide.

Comprehensive toxicological studies repeated over the last 40 years have time and again demonstrated that glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® branded agricultural herbicides, does not cause cancer, mutagenic effects, nervous system effects, immune system effects, endocrine disruption, birth defects, or reproductive problems. Glyphosate degrades over time in soil and natural waters and has favorable environmental characteristics, including tight binding to most soils, making it unlikely to move to groundwater or reach non-target plants.

Plant biotechnology has been in use for more than 15 years, without documented evidence of adverse effects on human or animal health or the environment. Countless studies from governments and respected scientific institutions using rigorous, unbiased methodologies have shown plant biotechnology as well as the specific safety of NK603 maize as safe and a beneficial technology for our global food supply. It provides consumers with quality food, while helping tens of millions of farmers increase their productivity, improve their communities and reduce agriculture's environmental footprint.

WPHA and our members are committed to the environmentally safe use of crop protection products and technologies, and is disappointed that once again, sensationalism is taking precedent over science at a cost to growers, communities in need, and the public at large who benefit from the reduced cost of safe, nutritious food and an improved environment. We recommend that readers take the time to look into the findings of the multitude of reputable scientific organizations that have rejected this study and not accept its findings at face value.

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