

Cáirde na Coille / Forest Friends Newsletter

Issue 9

June 2006

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EDITORIAL:

Irish Forestry Certificate Initiative

John Haughton

The most important process, which is taking place in relation to forestry in Ireland at the moment, is what is termed, IFCI, which means the Irish Forestry Certification Initiative. The background to this is that Coillte, which manages most of Ireland's forests on behalf of the Government and its people was granted an FSC (Forestry Stewardship Council) certificate to say that the Company managed its forests in a sustainable way and according to the principles of FSC.

This was in spite of the fact that many aspects of Coillte's operations were clearly contrary to the principles upon which the FSC certification process was set up. These included, planting on a monoculture, i.e. single species, basis; the use of environmentally and cancer causing herbicides, failure to adopt a proper consultative and multi-stakeholder approach, failure to take into account the submissions made by local communities.

The premise upon which the certification was granted appears to have been on the basis that Coillte would proceed expeditiously to rectify the

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A Lesson in Greenwashing: Millennium Forests in Ireland

Brendan Patrick Callery

Is it a big deal that the Irish public were lied to about their “unique Irish native broadleaf tree” to be planted in their name?

The price tag placed on the Millennium Forest project, according to a newsletter from the Taoiseach in 2000, was two million pounds. That money was to cover the more than 1.2 million native Irish trees that were to be planted in 13 forests across the nation. Minister Séamus Brennan had certificates drawn up for each family, each with a specific reference number, to ensure everyone that this was indeed an initiative that the leaders of the country would stick to.

The Taoiseach praised the idea and said the Millennium Forests would “create a tremendous environmental, educational and cultural resource all over the country for Irish people to enjoy and appreciate for hundreds of years to come.”

Every one of the 1.2 million households in Ireland were given documentation indicating where they could find their distinctive tree. Since the owners of the trees were “encouraged to chart (the tree’s) growth well into the new millennium”, one Irish resident decided to do just that in March 2006, accompanied by RTÉ radio. The search led them to an overgrown area which was part of a reference block in Camolin Wood, Co. Wexford. There was no individual tree planted in the household’s name, despite the promise from government. In actuality, the number of trees planted per hectare was planned to be cut back from 2500 to 50. The big environmental leap forward into the millennium by the Irish government was in fact nothing more than a publicity stunt.

One of the worst things about the momentum gained by the environmental movement are the growing number of wolves who have the ability to keep finding sheep’s clothing to cloak themselves with. Corporations and governments

recognize that environmental progress is becoming a demand from the public and certain groups use that hope to gain further power and profit.

In this specific case, the Millennium Forest was a wise promise to break: the general idea was still there (some trees were indeed planted) and neglected trees are not able to vote. Offering more hospital beds, more classrooms or relief for farmers – those would be promises that they couldn’t walk away from, because there are real people behind those services that offer tangible benefits to taxpayers. When politicians make large claims about enhancing or preserving the environment, there is less at stake.

Environmental organizations will more than likely pursue the guilty party, be it a government body or a corporation, but at the end of the day, the guilty party can always point to the little they accomplished and say that they had good intentions.❖

Irish Forestry Quiz!

(e-mail answers to jjhaughton@gmail.com for prize)

1. Which Oak is Ireland’s national tree?
2. Which popular (Populus) is a native Irish tree?
3. Name three native Irish ‘Prunus’
4. Which Irish tree sustains the richest biodiversity?
5. Name two native Irish conifer tree species?
6. Name two native Irish trees, which are associated with riverbanks?
7. What if the Ogham alphabet?
8. What tree are hurleys made from?

9. What is Sylva culture?

deficiencies in their operations. But this has not happened and little significant change has taken place since then. If a certified organisation does not meet the FSC sustainability standard, FSC can in fact withdraw the certification, but it has not done so.

When certification is granted, it is normal, that another process takes place, namely the adoption a standard covering all aspects of sustainable forestry, which would then be applied on a countrywide basis. This process was initiated and Forest Friends Ireland/Cáirde na Coille was prepared to take part in it.

However it became apparent to us after a certain amount of time had elapsed that the process was not a creditable one and we had no choice except to withdraw from the process. Firstly, representation on IFCI resulted in the over representation of the public forestry agencies and the forestry industry, resulting in serious under representation of NGOs. (Non-governmental organisations). A number of NGO representatives were effectively forced out of the process by their best efforts being frustrated, as in the case of Dr. Anne Behan, ecologist; by their not being 'politically' acceptable to the controlling majority on IFCI or on a purely personality basis, as in the case of Brendan

Kelly, or by not being even allowed to begin representation, as in the case of Andrew St. Leger.

There were apparent conflicts of interest, for example, by the fact that a director could at one time be a director and a short time later would perform consultancy services for the IFCI company. It appeared to Forest Friends that public funding was being used as a controlling mechanism, as a number of forestry NGOs, who adopted a status quo approach to the adoption of a standard, received very substantial and increased funding.

Accounts were not produced at the AGM of IFCI. The initial drafts of the proposed new forestry standard were not widely circulated to established forestry NGOs for consultation.

Given the above facts, it appears to Forest Friends/Cáirde na Coille, that this process of Irish forestry certification should either be recommenced with the involvement of independent facilitation, agreeable to commercial sector, public agencies and NGOs, or that FSC should withdraw Coillte's certification so that FSC can appear to be a credible certification body. ❖

UN Convention Recommends a "Cautionary Approach" Towards GE Trees

Wording of the Decision of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Eighth Conference of the Parties Regarding Genetically Engineered Trees:

*Under Forest Biological Diversity
(UNEP/CBD/COP8/WG.1/L3)*

"The Conference of the Parties, Recognising the uncertainties related to the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts, including long-term and trans-boundary impacts, of genetically

as well as on the livelihoods of indigenous and local communities, and given the absence of reliable data and of capacity in some countries to undertake risk assessments and to evaluate those potential impacts,

- 1. Instructs the Executive Secretary to continue his engagement in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;*
- 2. Recommends parties to take a precautionary approach when addressing the issue of genetically modified trees;*
- 3. Requests the Executive Secretary to collect and collate existing information, including peer-reviewed published literature, in order to allow the*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2006

SATURDAY JUNE 3RD

Forest Friends meeting at 2pm at ENFO. ALL WELCOME!
For details, contact John Haughton at 01 8325415

SUNDAY JUNE 18TH

Forest Friends Tree Walk and Tree Identification and quiz at Airfield House, Upper Kilmacud Road Dundrum, and Dublin14, commencing at 3.00. Contact John Haughton, Forest Friends at 01 8325415 or for directions and information about Airfield contact Kathy Purcell at 2967603 or email info@airfield.ie. Web site www.airfield.ie.

MONDAY JULY 31ST

Celebrating Lughnasa at NEAR FM 101.6. Join in discussion with Forest Friends Joe Dunne and Carol Jordan for the ENVIRO programme 7 – 8 pm at Bunratty Road Coolock. Limited number of places. Also phone-in to the programme, at 01 8671016.

The programme includes poetry, storytelling, and music.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD

Celebrating Heritage Week. Heritage walk, tree walk, tree identification and quiz at Airfield, details as above, June 18th.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 22ND

"The Biodiversity of Trees in Ireland and the Rainforests" by Mathew Jebb, at the Visitor Centre, National Botanic Gardens, Dublin. Time 2.30.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 6TH

Celebrating Samhain. Details as per July 31st. above.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17TH

Forest Friends AGM and pre-Solstice Celebration at Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, Glencree, Co. Wicklow, as follows:

1.30. AGM

3.00 Tree planting ceremony

4.00 Fire and Seasons Pageant

6.00 Refreshments followed by music, song, storytelling and poetry.

Note: Please bring and share food and refreshments (non-alcohol).

UN CONVENTION continued from page 3

Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to consider and assess the potential environmental, cultural, and socio-economic impacts of genetically modified trees on the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, and to report to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

4. Invites parties, other governments and relevant organisations, including indigenous and local communities, as well as relevant stakeholders, to provide relevant views and information to the

Secretariat for inclusion in this assessment."

It is comforting to see the CBD not rush to allow GE trees to creep onto the landscape. To a select group, genetically engineered trees seem to have little or no set backs. The trees are hailed as the answer to our environmental problems on one side of the debate, while the opposing side seems to comprise of alarmists who worry that the trees could breed with wild trees and create invasive species that could cause problems in the ecosystem. The long lifetime of the tree relative to other plants makes it an area that we really should be hesitant with. Once trees are planted, they are also harder to contain than crops due to their far reaching pollen. With the help of a strong wind, pollen can be deposited as far as 2000 kilometers away, according to professor Roni Avissar of civil and environmental engineering at Duke. This may have us turning towards suicide seeds – a breed of sterile trees.

The Convention on Biodiversity could easily have taken the "innocent until proven guilty" road with GE trees. More harm could be done by rushing into planting GE trees than by being patient and ensuring that we have taken every precaution.

In terms of carbon sinks, GE trees might be seen as a good way for government and corporations to offset their carbon emissions in a quick and economic fashion. Carbon sequestration projects under Kyoto do make mention of the use of GE

UN CONVENTION continued on page 5

OTHER EVENTS:

Glencree Centre For Peace and Reconciliation, Glencree, Co. Wicklow – Ongoing maintenance of Peace Garden. For details contact Bernie or Paddy at 01 8376402

Hollywood, Co. Wicklow - Ongoing tree planting and maintenance and nursery development – For details, contact Joseph Dunne at 087 6490573

Seed Collections – For details contact Brendan at brendancallery@gmail.com

Forest Walks and Social Activities – For information contact Monika at sala.monika@gmail.com or Dermot at dermarae@eircom.net

GM Trees and Dutch Elm Disease

Brendan Patrick Callery

According to the Research Agency of the Forestry Commission in the U.K., Dutch elm disease is “one of the most serious tree diseases in the world”.

To lay their eggs, elm bark beetles seek out dying or dead elm wood and create tunnels in the inner bark. The hatched larvae eventually grow and exit the elm tree, eating or marching through sticky spores produced by the fungus. As the adult beetles feed on twigs and branches, they pierce the tree’s protective layer and implant the disease. The infected tree then attempts to limit the fungus growth by blocking the pores of the vascular cambium. By cutting off the pathway for the supply of nutrients and water, the plant eventually dies.

To avoid the spread of Dutch Elm Disease, scientists in Dundee, Scotland have begun experimenting with DED resistant trees. Instead of being hailed as a silver bullet solution by the international community, details are being kept concealed from the public. That’s not all, either. Other species of GM trees have been dispersed within the U.K.

The Independent newspaper has stated that “Governments worldwide have issued an

trees.

UN CONVENTION continued from page 4

Biogeochemist William Schlesinger from Duke University saw parallels between our fascination with GE trees and the insecticide DDT:

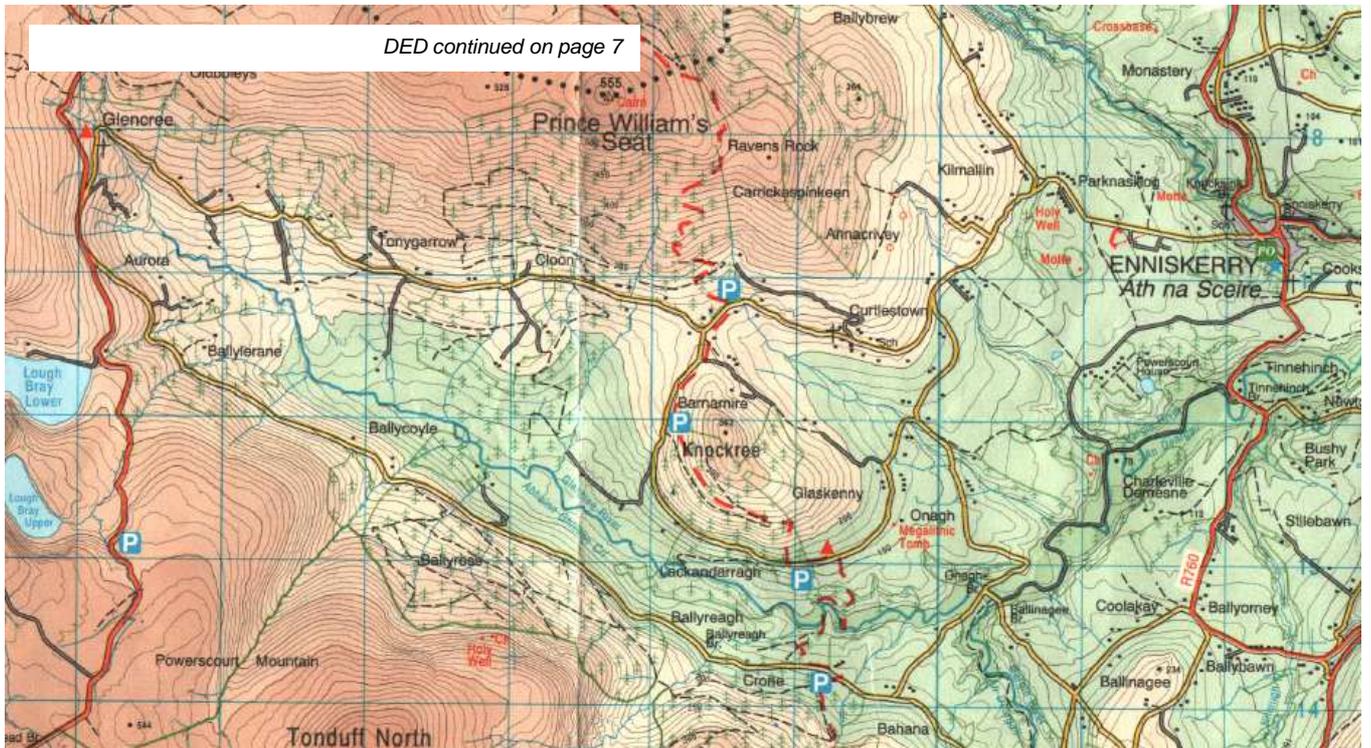
“It’s a new technology with lots of potential, lots of encouragement to use it, and money to be made by using it; we just need to be careful and make sure we have sufficient ecological understanding of it upfront”.

The Destruction of Madagascar

John Haughton

Eighty-five percent of its plants, ninety-eight of its reptiles and the lemur are exclusive to the Island of Madagascar. Due to the discovery of the ‘rosy periwinkle’, which grew only in this Island, four out of five children with leukaemia could be cured. One would have thought that this unique Island with its rainforest and mangrove forests would be preserved in its pristine condition. But this was not to be. The notorious Rio Tinto mining company, well known to the South African native peoples and the West Papuans, have begun the devastation and destruction in the island. One of the last vestiges of Madagascar’s littoral forest, an area of such rich biodiversity that in any other country would be formally protected is to be destroyed. The Rio Tinto project, which is mining for titanium dioxide, is part funded by £21m. loan from the World Bank. As a result of this venture the Island’s fledgling eco-tourist industry as well as its lagoons and mangrove forest will vanish. Madagascar, one of the world’s most heavily indebted and poorest countries, should not have to provide this mining land, (which because of its poverty, it is providing at a fraction of its mineral or environmental value). With resulting irreversible and gigantic environmental damage. Instead, the World’s environmental bodies should have moved in to ensure its preservation in the interest of Earth’s planet and its people. They should unite now to have this Rio Tinto operation winded down at the earliest opportunity and to ensure that such destruction is not repeated in this paradise.

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Glencree Valley Woodland Regeneration Project

Willie Maher

Glencree Valley was one of only two Medieval Norman Royal Hunting Forests in Ireland. A few mature remnants of the Native Oakwoods remain - Seskin Woods (Marshy Woods), owned by Coillte, is the largest area. There are also important areas of natural woodlands with some alder and holly species. Alder is known as a pioneering species and adds nitrogen to the ground. These are in danger of not regenerating due to grazing and other pressures. Some felling has also taken place which is illegal.

Efforts to grow some new oak woods include the Oak Glen Project on land donated by Coillte and some tree planting by An Oige (The Youth Hostel Association). We understand the latter organisation are applying for funding through the Native Woodlands Scheme to conserve and enhance

However these stands are overwhelmed by extensive planting of Sitka Spruce and other Non-Native Conifer Species. The Glencree Valley Project to be launched by Forest Friends Ireland later this year (Date and venue to be confirmed) in the locality will seek to garnish support from local residents, landowners, businesses, Coillte and anyone with an interest in the wellbeing of the area to regenerate the Native Forest of Glencree. The area covered would be from Glencree Reconciliation Centre to Enniskerry. Where there are non-native stands of forest we want to gain support to convert these to native woodlands over the next decade or two. Where there may be good economic or recreational reasons not to grow native woodlands we want to encourage native tree friendly practices including hedgerow regeneration, planting and maintenance which are important for visual and ecological purposes.

This will be a flagship project of FFI.

unprecedented warning about the greatest biotech hazards so far: GM trees". Leading the pack of the 16 countries currently developing GM trees is China, with over a million already planted. Impatience towards tree growth in this age of consumerism has opened to the door to genetically modified poplars that will grow four times as fast. Some of these trees have been planted near conventional poplar plantations. The Nanjing Institute reports that contamination is already happening.

To date, "the greatest biotech hazard" is seen as the best solution for "one of the most serious tree diseases in the world". It would be in our best interest to search for an alternative solution.

Central America – Illegal Logging

Dermot Deering

Central America is no stranger to stories of wanton pillage and resource depletion. The isthmus between North and Southern American Continents has acted as a natural corridor for the flora and fauna of the Continents to migrate, this had included the Cougar or Mountain Lion to Maza which has its origins in present day Oaxaca province of Mexico and has been distributed to various corners of southern and northern America.

According to anthropologists humans made their way along this narrow land route approximately 15,000 years ago as the first Americans made their way down from the Bering Straits in the north to the lands of Tierra del Fuego in the far south. The Meso-American People who settled in Central America were able to find a way to adapt and live in harmony with their surroundings and the diverse rainforests were treated as a source of life and sustenance for whole communities.

All this dramatically changed with the arrival of the Europeans in the early 16th century as pillage and destruction of natural resources

took off on an enormous scale. Gold and Silver may have been the primary objectives for the European colonisers but land and timber were soon expropriated from indigenous groups for the benefits of rich landed elites and powerful colonial trading companies.

Today a new conquest of the rainforests of Central America is taking place as large logging companies of various dimensions take over the job where the greedy conquistadores left off. The objectives are basically the same, making some people extremely rich and impoverishing local communities that have treated their land and forests in a respectful manner befitting a life-sustaining force. What is the reason today for the present onslaught on what remains of the Authenthous forests of Pine and Oak in the Highlands of Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua and the Mahagonies that grow in the warmer, tropical lowlands and what do we here in Ireland and Europe have to do with it, if anything? The loss of these forests, the connected wildlife and the people who have traditionally live in or near the forests is a concern for environmentalists across the world today as we learn about them as carbon sinks and stabilisers of global climate.

Yes this is a connection we are all becoming increasingly aware of as Climate becomes more unpredictable. There is however another more immediate and direct connection, which in fact is a contributory cause in the destruction of Central America's rainforests and that is timber, the rich varieties of hard wood that are found in Central America, are some of the last unexploited stands of virgin tropical hardwood and these are quickly being felled to end up as the floors and furniture in the homes and offices of affluent society in both Europe and North America.

In the north-eastern corner of Honduras the Rio Platano BioSphere, which in theory at least provides for strong legal protection under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme. But theory and practice more often than not end

CENTRAL AMERICA continued on page 8

up acting in opposition to each other when it comes to furthering the interests of modern humans or ensuring the well-being of the natural environment. The Rio Platano BioSphere Reserve, straddles a number of provinces including Olancho, has the largest natural forest remaining in Honduras but this once remote location is now being opened with roads built to serve the activities of illegal logging companies and now trucks are operating day and night to get the timber out as fast as possible.

The deforestation which is turning the province of Olancho into a desert is taking place at an alarming rate with 102,200 hectares per year being cut down. The wealth being made from this deforestation is unsurprisingly gravitating to the already rich in Honduras lumber industry as well as a few well connected foreigners in the USA and elsewhere. It is the rapid nature of the loss of the trees that has so alarmed local people who depend on the forests for their continued water and soil quality. In the hardest hit areas in the west of the province, roughly half of rivers and wells have dried up according to the Environmental Movement of Olancho(MAO). "MAO believe that uncontrolled highland logging and the destruction of natural forest watersheds have dried up water supplies and eroded topsoils and eroded topsoils resulting in drier climates."⁽¹⁾ Environmental Investigation Agency 2005.

Now the defense of the forests has become a matter of life and death and the resistance movement against logging in Honduras is growing in strength despite the murder of environmentalist Carlos Luna and Carlos Flores in 1998 and 2000 respectively. The leader of the Environmentalists seeking to save the remaining forest in Olancho is Father Andres Tamayo who in June 2003 led thousands of ordinary people on a 175 mile march to the capital Tegucigalpa to demand that the authorities take some effective action to halt the deforestation. The peaceful, March

known as the March for Life hoped to present a list of seven simple demands the national President, to protect the remaining forests, were instead met by a small army of riot police armed with an assortment of rubber truncheons etc. This has not discouraged the activists such as Father Tamayo and others who themselves are now the subjects of death threats but rather have confirmed their conviction that they will fight to the end to save their forests from destruction.

Mayday just gone, the brave community of Campamento in Olancho began another March for Life to the Capital under the banner *Rompamos el Miedo Defiendamos el Medio Ambiente*. We are breaking the fear. We are defending the Environment. The outcome of this courageous fight by the local community to preserve its forest for future generations in the face of unscrupulous logging interests and the failure of its own government to carry out its constitutional duties is now reaching a critical stage. However this is not a localised or isolated situation but one that is shaped to a very great degree by the behaviour of retailers and consumers in the USA and the E.U.

The USA and the EU are the greatest importers of Honduran timber and demand remains high for hardwood and while consumers here may think they are paying a high price for timber it is this demand for high quality tropical timber that is fuelling illegal logging such as is taking place in Honduras.

Perhaps it is now the time for consumers to ask for the provenance of all timber they are thinking of purchasing and for the E.U. to carry out its promise to stop its import of illegal timber under the forest law enforcement, Governance and trade (FLEGT) initiative. This could be a timely intervention as the E.U. did recognise the large discrepancy in trade data between what was reported as imported timber arriving from Honduras and what was officially reported to have left Honduras bound for European Union.

LETTER TO THE EPA CONCERNING GMOs

John Haughton

The EPA
P.O. Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co Wexford.

Representation to the EPA regarding a notification under the Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Regulations – S.I. No. 500 of 2003, article 16(1) Reference No B/IE/06/01 of 13/1/2006 from BASF Plant Science GmbH, Germany, for the proposed deliberate release of GM potatoes into the environment for purposes other than placing on the market i.e. to perform a field trial.

Forest Friends Ireland/Cáirde na Coille hereby makes representations with regard to the above-mentioned field trials as follows.

1. It appears that no animal feeding studies have been done, and that no environmental or health impact studies are planned.
2. The patent under which these trials operate. WO/2003/066675 [or WO/2003/066675A1 ?] may enable the patent owner to claim ownership of any farmers' crops contaminated by its patented genes, to file patent infringement lawsuits against contaminated farmers, and force any farmers found growing the potatoes (whether by contamination or not) to pay annual patent royalties. This is part of the transnational corporate strategy to control the food supply through GMO crop patents.
3. Irish farmers contaminated by GMO crops may lose ownership of their own produce, face patent infringement lawsuits, and be forced to pay annual patent royalties.
4. Modified genes can escape and contaminate other crops, wildlife, and produce "super weeds". There is clear risk of cross-contamination of Irish potatoes. Risk assessments of the impact of the experiment on non-target organisms seem to be based on an assumption of safety, and do not provide for an adequate monitoring scheme.
5. There is growing scientific evidence that GM foods and crops pose unacceptable health and environmental risks, including overwhelming evidence of deaths attributable to GM products among laboratory and farm animals and in the human population.
6. The isolation distance 20 meters to cultivated potatoes is not adequate.
7. BASF has made specious assumptions that could lead to contamination, with toxic effects on humans and wildlife. The people and wildlife of Ireland should not be exposed to inadequately tested genetic constructions. If the GM potato proves to be immunologically active, the impact on both human and animals may be severe.
8. The transfer of genes between the potato *Solanum tuberosum* and its wild relative *Solanum bulbocastanum* may lead to novel proteins with powerful or fatal immune responses, potential inflammation as well as allergenicity effects.
9. The expression of the modifying genes in glasshouse experiments was not studied under real outdoor weather conditions such as drought, water logging, heat, cold, nitrogen excess or starvation which could lead to unexpected toxicity.
10. Post-release treatment of the test site does not seem adequately monitored nor will it achieve a clean post-harvest site.
11. The proposition that the NBS-LRR family of plant pest resistance genes and their products provide safe transgenes for human consumption and for environmental release because they are found in food crops (and for that reason require no further testing) is simply foolhardy.

12. The suggestion that NBS-LRR genes can be assumed safe until proven hazardous is not an assumption, which serves the common good and ignores the precautionary principle.

In addition to the above specific objections Forest Friends Ireland/Cáirde na Coille, are deeply concerned at recent trends which began when the then EU Irish Commissioner David Byrne signed over to allowing experiments to take place in the EU. Our submission would like to draw attention to the following:

1. The present proposals should be looked at in the context of undue pressures from the Biotech Industry, vested interests in the decision making process in the EU, intensive lobbying, and the more recent rulings of the World Trade Organization to hurry the introduction and dissemination of genetically modified foods, plants and trees.
2. It has been shown that unintended effects have happened which make it necessary to have more stringent field trial conditions than are provided by BASF.
3. BASF have a very poor record in environmental terms and we feel that more stringent monitoring of any trials proposed by them should be provided for.
4. Forest Friends are deeply concerned that a small number of multi-national companies are more and more controlling the seed supplies of the world, leading to a serious loss of biodiversity, and which is leading to a serious democratic deficit, and an unacceptable loss of biodiversity. **BASF, Bayer, Aventis and Monsanto** are now leading producers of GMO crops. The proliferation of field trials, introductions and proliferation has to be looked at in this context and these trends have to be built into the equations of assessment. They suggest a much larger lead in time and more stringent controls at all stages of the process.
5. Research carried out in Great Britain and elsewhere has shown serious effects of GMOs on wildlife.
6. We are concerned that bona fide research carried out by highly qualified and respected experts, with regard to potatoes and GMOs in Scotland, was not rejected by the biotic industry on what

Nitrogen Hinders Capture of Excess Carbon

Brendan Patrick Gallery

As carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere rise over time, plants will not be able to absorb excess carbon. This will be due to the difficulty in acquiring sufficient nutrients from the soil, mainly nitrogen, according to Nature magazine.

Research at the University of Minnesota has revealed that the increase in CO₂ levels over

time would accelerate due to the ecosystems' inability to store excess carbon. Thus, carbon sinks that are desperately needed will become less effective with time.

It is believed that in future, plants will depend on soil with lower levels of nitrogen as a result of the increase of CO₂, despite the nitrogen pollution present in the air. Plants with the ability to convert atmospheric nitrogen to a useful form, such as leguminous plants, could not cope with the additional CO₂ levels any better than conventional plants.

FEATURED WEBSITE: WWW.EUEMISSIONS.ORG

Excerpt: "The EU's Emissions Trading Scheme is described in official documents as being 'a cornerstone' of the EU's response to the threat of catastrophic climate change. Its first phase, Phase I, began in January 2005 and is due to run until December 2007. It will then be followed by Phase II, which will run until 2012."

"The signatories of the ARREST Declaration believe that Phase I has shown the ETS to be so deeply flawed that legislative and administrative problems must not be allowed to prevent a radical review of the principles on which it is based and then, if necessary, the replacement of the present ETS with

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Forest Friends Ireland, P.O. Box 7814, Dublin 1. Ireland

FEES: Individual...€ 30 Family...€ 60 Schools...€6 Student /Unwaged/Senior Citizen...€ 15 (Please Tick)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

METHODS OF PAYMENT

CHEQUE/POSTAL ORDER

For the appropriate amount made payable to “**Forest Friends Ireland**” at the above address /or

BANKER’S ORDER

I/We authorize you to payannual payments of €,commencing on the Day.....Month.....Year.....

To the account of:
Forest Friends Ireland Ltd.
Bank of Ireland
2 College Green
Dublin 2

Account no: 33721955 Sort Code: 900017

To the Manager (your bank)

Bank’s Postal Address

Name of Account

Account Number

Date

Signature(s)

Please return to: Forest Friends Ireland, P.O. Box 7814, Dublin 1. Ireland
Further information at www.forestfriends.ie

Telephone: 353 01 8325415
jjhaughton@gmail.com or wjmaher@iol.ie

Petition to Minister Mary Coughlan

To Minister Mary Coughlan
Minister for Agriculture
Dáil Éireann, Kildare St., Dublin

Dear Minister, I wish to support the following campaigns of Forest Friends/Cáirde na Coille:

1. To reverse the present Irish Government's forestry policy of planting mainly a monoculture of Sitka Spruce in favor of planting Irish native trees. This is justifiable on economic, environmental and social equity bases. It is the only forestry strategy which is sustainable in the context of a national biodiversity approach based on the principles enunciated at the Earth Summit Conference in Rio in 1992:
2. To ensure that the forests of the Irish People, (at present managed by Coillte) are not privatized. This would be contrary to the national interest, to the principles of conservation and would create serious problems of public assess, such as are at present enjoyed by the people of Ireland.

Name.....

Signature.....

Address.....

Phone no.....

NB Please cut out and send the above request to Minister Mary Coughlan, Dail Eireann, Kildare Street, Dublin