

13:48:23 From Jeff Passmore to Everyone:

Q: Yes, pesticides are bad, and fertilizers are polluting our waters including the oceans, but I've been told there is not now, and cannot be, enough organic food to feed 8 billion people. Perhaps there are bio-based pesticides and fertilizers. Thoughts?

13:49:38 From Richard van der Jagt to Everyone:

C: Jeff, pesticides lead to multiple toxicities in humans on which Meg and I gave a CACOR talk.

13:51:01 From Samrat Bharadwaj to Everyone:

C: Round-Up (made by Monsanto) has destroyed the cotton farming scene in India. Thousands of farmers in Maharashtra and the Deccan (where cotton still grows) have committed suicide during the last 10 years. Monsanto never paid a dime for all the damage caused. The government of India is as horrible as Monsanto. That RoundUp plastic container is a symbol of death in rural India. The weed killer in reality killed human beings also.

13:55:08 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

Q: Fungicides have very 'interesting' toxicological effects, notably on reproduction and development. Whenever I pointed this out to registrants, a recurring counter-argument was that the mycotoxins they prevented were far worse. Can we grow and, more importantly, store crops as we do without the use of fungicidal products?

13:57:12 From Ted Manning to Everyone:

Q: What are the alternatives? Are different options for cultivations methods or substances available or likely to serve?

13:58:46 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: My understanding was that one difference between the conclusions of IARC and regulators was that IARC considered studies with formulated material while regulators look primarily at studies with the pure active, which is poorly absorbed if not formulated.

13:59:06 From Richard van der Jagt to Everyone:

C: I've treated hundreds of those patients with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and witnessed that those with the higher doses of glyphosate or other pesticides often had more treatment resistance.

14:00:30 From Anitra Thorhaug to Everyone:

Q: In the effulgence of Canadian resources, such as water, has the large increase in Canadian population, and their increasingly diverse food needs been integrated into a Canadian food security futures estimate in the face of Climate change, especially taking into account the nations from whence

Canadian winter food products originate? If these peoples are not food secure, such as Peru, where glacier melt is creating much of water for crop growth, can you justify in the food security the "taking of nutrients from these nations? That would be also organic compounds from places like China. A second question has to do with " round-up" in fish products in lakes, streams, and rivers.

14:07:24 From Jon Legg to Everyone:

Q: Is there a growth of international organizations which try to "police" poor agricultural practices in certain countries? POLITICAL breakdown of trade is increasingly common. What about HEALTH breakdowns of trade?

14:08:39 From Richard van der Jagt to Everyone:

C: Unfortunately, an attempt to strengthen CEPA failed at including pesticides, which is poor for public health.

14:10:44 From Ted Manning to Everyone:

C: Where there are agreed international standards import and export is often strongly policed, for example under ISO. Europe and Japan have been the strongest in monitoring and many other countries self-monitor (with internationally independent audits to verify that they meet the standards (where such exist) to enter markets. However, where no agreed standards are in place this is much more difficult and it should be noted that many countries use the standards as barriers to imports if they exist or not. It's complicated.

14:13:45 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: Here is another way to remember the PMRA acronym: 'Pesticides Made Readily Available.'

14:17:18 From Richard van der Jagt to Everyone:

C: It would be interesting to do an Access to Information request to see how often CROPLIFE met with the PMRA.

14:17:55 From Samrat Bharadwaj to Everyone:

Q: Is modern agriculture in it's current form a part of solutionism? The belief that every problem has a solution based in technology.

14:21:28 From Richard van der Jagt to Everyone:

C: In the Netherlands, they use 1/10th the concentration of pesticides.

14:22:00 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: Even leaving organic agriculture aside for now, current practices, such as the use of insecticidal seed treatments, go completely against any principle of IPM.

14:24:42 From Susan Tanner to Everyone:

C: The Group of 78 had presentation by NFU about this. We should be supporting their campaign.

14:32:38 From Susan Tanner to Everyone:

Q: You mentioned regulatory capture. I understand that academic groups in the US are now studying money and democracy (not). Do you think we need an inquiry for this?

14:35:50 From Paul Beckwith to Everyone:

Q: I have a question on your COVID work with "Canadian Committee on Indoor Air Quality" listed in your bio.

Any progress?

Can you suggest using CO₂ detectors as proxy for virus, to measure indoor ventilation?

14:40:31 From Samrat Bharadwaj to Everyone:

C: Since there are thousands of critters which have been deemed pests—which are also enemies of modern, scaled agriculture—modern agriculture and pesticides is a form of war we wage on the critters.

14:41:43 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: Samrat. Check out 'The War on Bugs' by Will Allen. Entertaining historical perspective.

14:44:04 From John Hollins to Everyone:

Q: You presented two themes: pesticides and genetic modification. The presentation spent most time on pesticides and the discussion has not yet addressed genetic modification. Has your audience got its emphasis right?

14:46:12 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: We have made 'organic certification' difficult to achieve with long transition period etc. We need to go back to IPM and regenerative principles.

14:46:20 From Susan Tanner to Everyone:

C: The G78 presentation was ABOUT Climate Change. It is available on our site.

14:46:45 From Susan Tanner to Everyone:

C: The pesticides are climate change producers.

14:50:13 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: The EU generally does a much better job than we do.

14:51:33 From Samrat Bharadwaj to Everyone:

C: If Canadians see the situation in Spain, closely, in terms of EU regulations, are also full of problems, falling yields and haphazard imports to meet demands (from Africa).

14:57:39 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: Unfortunately, industry funds a lot of science and gives a lot of money to university departments. I have met a lot of 'so-called' independent professors who were clearly touting the industry line for funding reasons.

15:01:11 From Pierre Mineau to Everyone:

C: The fundamental problem here is that pesticide companies now own the seed market.