México: A long road for the protection of corn

GMOs are a failed Technology
The future is GMO Free

Join the online webinar

Wednesday 10 March 2021
8am CST - 2pm GMT - 7.30pm IST
México and Mesoamérica

One of the eight crop species origin centers

Mesoamérica:
Corn, bean, squash, chile, tomatoes

Andes:
Potatoes quinoa

Mediterranean
Oats, rape

Near East
Barley, rye, wheat, peas

Central Asia
Wheat

China:
Rice, soy bean, millet “foxtail”

Indo-Malaysian:
Rice, banana, sugarcane, yam

Fig. 1. The eight centers of origin, according to N. I. Vavilov.
The corn created a culture

The corn allowed to the Mesoamerican population to build a civilization with a system thought, a culture, a worldview, gods

Códice Cuautinchan. Foto: Robert Bye

Foto Codice
Ehecatl and the man seated represents the corn folded plant. C. L. Códice Fejerváry Mayer
Corn: A success history with 8,000 years of progress and improvements

- Highly adaptable crop. It can be grown in different temperature, climate, altitude, soil and so on.

- It grow from sea level to 3,000 meters above sea level. In extreme conditions.

- Ideal crop for climate change
Corn is the most relevant crop worldwide for volume production:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Producción (tons)</th>
<th>Área cosechada (Ha)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maíz</td>
<td>720'815,409</td>
<td>817'110,509</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trigo</td>
<td>627'130,584</td>
<td>681'915,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arroz</td>
<td>605'758,530</td>
<td>678'688,289</td>
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Yellow corn is the first worldwide grown. Few countries grow mainly White corn as México.
Great use diversity

Over 7000 industrialized food products contain chemical corn derivatives. Everyday we consume food products that likely contain starch, dextrose, high fructose ... corn derivatives.

For its characteristics and meanings for Latin American people

¡Corn is a grain in dispute!
Justice

Campaign

*Sin Maíz no hay País*
*(No Maize no Bread)*
Mexico stops GM maize through a people’s collective demand

From the cradle of this revered plant we, the women and men of maize thoroughly reject the release of GM maize into our greatest bio-cultural patrimony.
A precautionary measure was requested to the Federal Judge of Civil.

The judge ordered immediately stop any activity leading to granting any permit to release genetically modified maize to the environment and suspend any permit for experimental, pilot or commercial plantings of genetically modified maize.
Andrés Manuel López Obrador wins the election with more than 50% of the vote.

Se He promises to prohibit GMO corn in Mexico.
2019: Glyphosate import permits denied by Semarnat

Evidence of the presence of glyphosate in children's urine in Jalisco and farmers in Campeche.

November 2019 Semarnat denies glyphosate imports, under the precautionary principle.

One year later, 76 requests for glyphosate imports submitted by 15 companies have been denied, equivalent to a total of 132,344 tons.
2020 DECREE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF GLYPHOSATE and GENETICALLY MODIFIED CORN

Published in the Official Newspaper on December 31, 2020.

Establishes actions for the entire Federal Public Administration, in order to gradually replace the use, acquisition, distribution, promotion and importation of glyphosate and agrochemicals used in our country that contain it as an active ingredient, with sustainable and culturally appropriate alternatives that allow the maintenance of production and are safe for human health, the country's biocultural diversity and the environment.

In order to contribute to food security and sovereignty, permits for the release of genetically modified corn seeds into the environment will be revoked and refrained from. Likewise, authorizations for the use of genetically modified corn grain in the diet of Mexican men and women will be revoked and refrained from being granted.

Transition period until January 31, 2024.
“There is no country in the world that has presented as much resistance to the planting of transgenic corn as Mexico.”

Wall Street Journal, Dec 9, 2010

This is the time to “make a Milpa”, to get together and to overcome any of our differences and diversity.

Velada por el maíz
26 de febrero 2009

Campaña nacional
Sin maíz no hay país