

# Safe Food and Organic Markets- ananthoo

*“Eating is an agricultural act”, said Wendell Berry famously!*

# Food is as safe as it is grown



- What is sprayed comes to your plate, as residues in your drinking water, tea, coffee, soft drinks, milk, meat, veggies, grains, fruits etc.....
- It also ends up in your blood and tissues!

# Any idea where these signs are from?





# Pesticides are.... Poisons



It is estimated that less than **0.1%** of pesticides used for pest control fall on targeted pest!



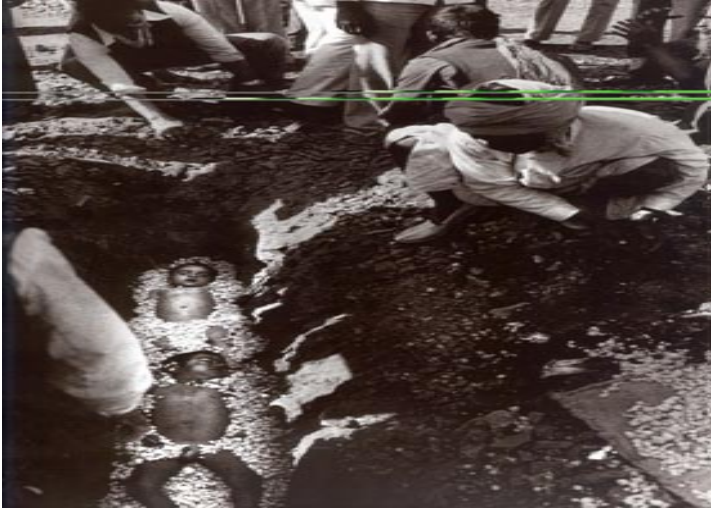
# Pesticides a way to end life – not only of pests, but of humans...?

Most suicides, including farm suicides committed by consuming pesticides.....– indebtedness increases due to higher and higher use of pesticides and similar inputs...the returns do not match the costs...

Pesticides constitute 40% to 60% of Cost of Cultivation in many crops...

Pesticides' neuro-toxicity also inducing suicidal tendencies?

# Pesticides hazardous at point of production too!



- Bhopal gas tragedy : Union Carbide factory making Sevin (Carbaryl) pesticide at that point of time.....
- Nagarjuna chemicals in Srikakulam this month.....



BHOPAL STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE CONTINUES TO THIS DAY.....THOUSANDS ARE STILL GETTING AFFECTED & DYING DUE TO CONTAMINATION FROM TOXIC WASTES.....



# Pesticide residues in your food and water...& inside YOU



- Pesticides used in production of crops and storage are retained as residues in your food
- Pesticide residues also contaminate all sources of fresh water, seen in bottled water and soft drinks
- Body Burden defined as the total pesticide residue in a human is the highest in India
- Pesticides found in blood and tissues in many studies.....
- Breast milk has pesticide residues beyond tolerance limits as per several studies

# NIN found 18 pesticides in Hyderabad vegetables, Feb' 2012

- Atrazine
- Propanil
- Imidacloprid
- Triazophos
- Ethion
- Monocrotophos
- Quinalphos
- Metribuzin
- Chlorpyrifos
- Aldicarb
- Chlorfenvinphos
- Diazinon
- Phosalone
- Fenitrothion
- Acephate
- Simazine
- Malathion
- Alachlor

In Brinjal, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Tomato, Bhindi...

In 2011, Delhi High Court took up a *suo motu* case and got samples tested - found prohibited pesticides!

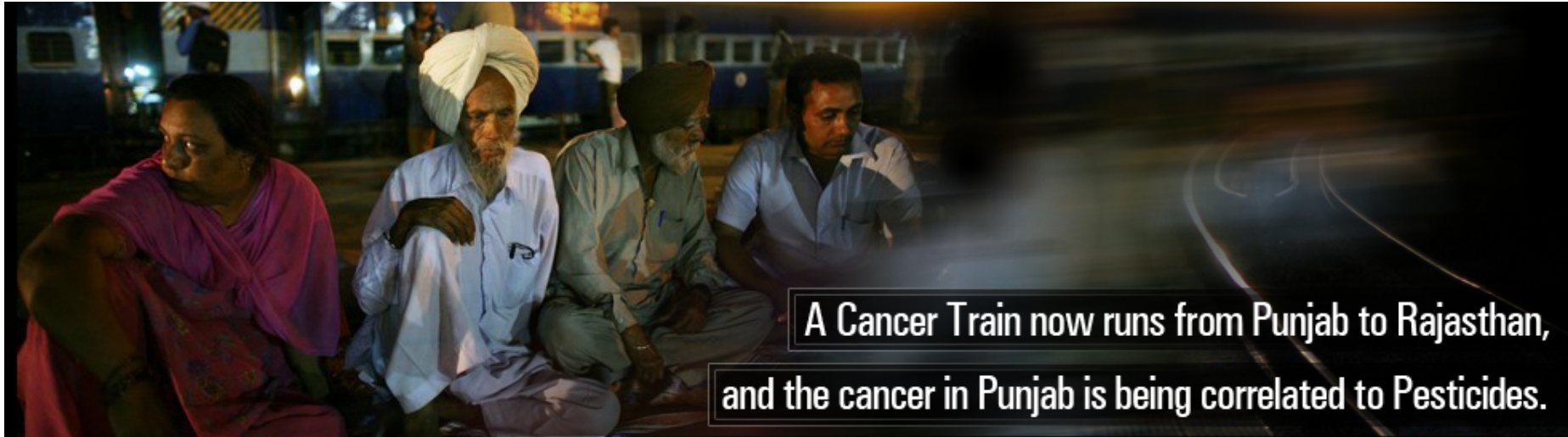


# Bio-accumulation & Bio-magnification

- **Bio-accumulation** is the phenomenon when an organism absorbs a toxin at a rate greater than that at which the substance is lost.
- **Bio-magnification** is the increase in the concentration of a pesticide along the food chain (pesticides ending up in water bodies ending up in fish, eaten by birds, eaten further down by animals and then by humans etc.).
- Bio-accumulation occurs within an organism, bio-magnification occurs across food chain

# Health Implications...

- CANCERS
- REPRODUCTIVE DAMAGE
- ENDOCRINE DISRUPTION
- NEUROLOGICAL DAMAGE
- “CHOLINESTERASE INHIBITORS”
- IMMUNITY DAMAGE
- SKIN DISORDERS
- KIDNEY AND LIVER DAMAGE
- INFERTILITY
- HEART DISEASES
- MUTAGENECITY/TERATOGENECITY.....



A Cancer Train now runs from Punjab to Rajasthan,  
and the cancer in Punjab is being correlated to Pesticides.

- PUNJAB, the seat of Green Revolution in India reeling under a massive environmental health catastrophe....their water sources contaminated and all village water supply declared as 'unfit for human consumption' ....Cancer Capital of India
- 11 of the top 15 most-consumed pesticides in India banned in other countries!

# GM is no different....

- In fact, living technology - irreversible, uncontrollable....
- Health impacts similar: on immune system, on reproductive health, on growth & development, on vital organs, allergies etc. Many environmental impacts too, including on soil (microbial organisms) & on unintended targets.....
- Both are “treadmill technologies”
- A big NO to GMO

Food...?



How did that become white?

*Same case with - Oil, rice, tea,  
ice cream, etc*

# Strawberry Milk shake ingredients!!

- milkfat and nonfat milk, sugar, sweet whey, high-fructose corn syrup, guar gum, monoglycerides and diglycerides, cellulose gum, sodium phosphate, carrageenan, citric acid, E129 and artificial strawberry flavour.
- And what does that "artificial strawberry flavour" contain?
- Just these few yummy chemicals: amyl acetate, amyl butyrate, amyl valerate, anethol, anisyl formate, benzyl acetate, benzyl isobutyrate, butyric acid, cinnamyl isobutyrate, cinnamyl valerate, cognac essential oil, diacetyl, dipropyl ketone, ethyl butyrate, ethyl cinnamate, ethyl heptanoate, ethyl heptylate, ethyl lactate, ethyl methylphenylglycidate, ethyl nitrate, ethyl propionate, ethyl valerate, heliotropin, hydroxyphenyl- 2-butanone (10% solution in alcohol), ionone, isobutyl anthranilate, isobutyl butyrate, lemon essential oil, maltol, 4-methylacetophenone, methyl anthranilate, methyl benzoate, methyl cinnamate, methyl heptine carbonate, methyl naphthyl ketone, methyl salicylate, mint essential oil, neroli essential oil, nerolin, neryl isobutyrate, orris butter, phenethyl alcohol, rose, rum ether, undecalactone, vanillin and solvent.
- And how many ingredients in your grand mother' s strawberry milk shake?  
**Just 4!**
- So much for processed foods..

## Some numbers...

- Processed food sales worldwide - approximately US\$3.2 trillion
- The fast-food industry spends about \$660 million of its annual \$4.2 billion **advertising budget** (about 16 percent) on marketing to children and teenagers
- McDonalds- **\$963 million** in 2011! **\$1.201 billion** in 2008 (and now nearing **2 billion!**)
- **Procter & Gamble** 2011 \$2.95 billion 2010 \$3.1 billion
- **L'Oreal** 2011 \$1.34 billion
- **General Motors** 2011 \$1.78 billion 2010 \$2.13 billion
- **Chrysler** 2011 \$1.19 billion
- **Pfizer** 2011 \$1.2 billion
- **Walmart Stores:** \$1.89 billion
- The UK food industry annually spends over £10.5 billion on chemicals to add to food and alter it! (advt revenue? 40 billion!)

# Take control..

- Food is best grown by you
- Urban garden is the right answer- politically, socially and personally
- Seeds, health, local economy, ecology - everything is addressed
- But, Bring on community- urban garden need not be too personal- let community spaces evolve
- Cuban UG and network market



# Cuba

- Imagine suddenly no gas, no tractor, no chemicals..
- From there urban gardens went on to feed the cubans
- It was all organic- by no choice
- The markets were unique too
- Local and spill over networks
- So it was not just food, but neighbourhood markets, local economy and local livelihoods..

# California

- CSAs
- Organic farmers market
- Local markets
- Network coops
- Self-reliant markets
- (look back at our own traditional markets; today how much is local and how much goes out- all the way out of India?)

# Thank you..

Some useful sites..

[WWW.INDIAFORSAFEFOOD.IN](http://WWW.INDIAFORSAFEFOOD.IN)

<http://kisanswaraj.in/>

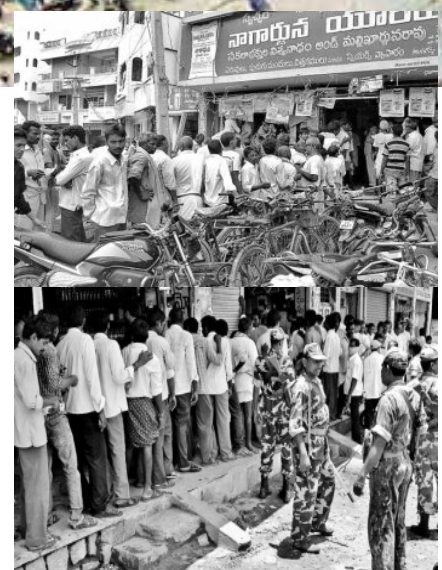
<http://www.agrariancrisis.in>

<http://indiagminfo.org/>

<http://restore.org.in/>

<http://restoregardens.org/>

# Whose Self Sufficiency?



- In the U.S., consumers spend approximately US\$1 trillion annually on food, [3] or nearly 10 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Over 16.5 million people are employed in the food industry.
- In the United Kingdom, the food industry is extensive. It employs 2 million people and has a turnover in excess of £70bn. It is the largest manufacturing sector in the UK and represents around 15% of the total manufacturing sector in the UK. Around 13% of the people working in manufacturing in the UK work in the food and drink industry