

GMO Label Opponents Spend Millions To Fight Prop 37 As Advocates Cite Rising Pesticide Use, Health Risks

On page 16 of the Biotechnology Basics Activity Book, a "Kidz Quiz" asks the question, "Does biotechnology help people reduce their use of pesticides?"

According to the messages relayed in the book, the correct box to check is "True."

The members of the industry group Council For Biotechnology Information, the book's publisher, are the same companies currently pouring millions into a campaign to keep genetically-engineered foods from being labeled as such on store shelves in California.

This so-called "Big Six" -- BASF, Bayer CropScience, Dow AgroSciences, DuPont, Monsanto and Syngenta -- have now contributed more than \$13 million to defeat Proposition 37, which is slated to appear on the state's Nov. 6 ballot. The measure, experts say, could significantly thwart the rapid growth in the use of genetically-engineered crops (so-called GMOs) since their commercial introduction in the U.S. in 1995.

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