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Mexico and the United States: the corn of discord



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The United States will try to force Mexico to acquire and consume transgenic corn produced in the northern country for which it invoked the action of a dispute resolution panel of the Mexico-United States-Canada Free Trade Agreement (T-MEC).

Given the Mexican decision, issued last February, to prohibit the use of transgenic corn in tortillas or masa, as well as that of genetically modified grain in products for human consumption and animal feed, the Office of Trade Representative of the United States (USTR) determined to take the case to the panel to challenge the measure.

This is the last phase of the pressures exerted by Washington that began at the beginning of year with requests for explanations from Mexico about the actions taken against

genetically modified organisms (GMOs); This was followed in March by a request formal technical meetings and in June a consultation on the solution of Controversies.

According to USTR, Mexico's decision It is not based on scientific basis and affects the interests of U.S. farmers who export the grain to that nation.

When analyzed in detail, notes that there are political interests in the background (elections in States United next year) and economic because a study of the National University Autonomous of Mexico (UNAM) assures that if the ban materializes Washington It would lose about \$73.890 billion in production over 10 years.

In In this sense, an editorial in the newspaper La Jornada indicates that "the administration of Joe Biden acts as a representative of the powerful agribusiness of his country and attempts to force others to eat products whose health effects human beings are subject to intense controversy."

Add the note that GMOs are produced under the monoculture regime, so They destroy the biodiversity of the planet and represent the annihilation of everything Type of animal and plant species because transgenic seeds are inseparable from pesticides and herbicides that multiply damage to the environment and which pose an additional danger to human life. The best known of them, RoundUp with its ingredient Active, glyphosate, is used irresponsibly in the United States United, but it is banned or has been restricted in more than 20 countries.

For years, Several scientific writings have determined how harmful some of these are. genetic products that must use highly hazardous herbicides for Bless you.

Already in 2014, a study by researchers at the University of Caen, France, documented the appearance of cancerous tumors in fed rats with a variety of transgenic corn produced by the North American company Monsanto. Three years earlier, the International Journal of Biological Sciences, He published an academic paper showing that three varieties of maize genetically modified, produced by this transnational could cause damage to the kidneys, liver, and heart.

The U.S. petition for the creation of the panel, states that the position Mexico's Not Science-Based and Undermines Corn's Access to the Aztec Market as agreed in the USMCA agreement. Result symptomatic that by invoking the panel, Washington has left out of the Discussion the use of the highly harmful and banned pesticide glyphosate in the Aztec country.

The RoundUp produced by Monsanto, is the most herbicide popular of the world and is used in genetically modified crops that They resist glyphosate. It is claimed that its

residues are still present in the food that is later distributed in supermarkets. A study conducted by Swedish oncologists Lennart Hardell and Mikael Eriksson, says that this herbicide is directly related to cancer and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

In addition, the Terminator seeds, manufactured by Monsanto, produces sterile grains unable to germinate forcing farmers to buy them every year instead of being able to save them and use them in their harvests as was traditional previously. Both seeds and then flowers (from the wind or bees that have not died from RoundUp) cause "cross-pollination" and contaminate nearby crops sterile, endangering natural seeds. This can lead to In the future, this transnational will take control of the supply of food worldwide.

Referring to the situation created, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador explained that it is good that they are now challenging a decree of Mexico so that this corn is not used in human consumption because it is going to allow, present evidence in that panel and propose that a group be formed Set of researchers with the aim of knowing whether or not it causes damage to the Bless you.

He then pointed out "we believe that it is harmful and we are not violating treaties because it is established that when there are differences You can go to them so it is a good opportunity. We will not allow corn to be used transgenic for the feeding of Mexicans".

López Obrador emphasized that they have proof of the damage caused by that food and they're going to expose them.

Certainly, governments must analyze very precisely the Free Trade Agreements signed with the United States so as not to fall into the traps they impose.

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