GRAINS OF HOPE
Time, July 31, 2000

Topic:
• Potential for genetically engineered (GE) crops to revolutionize agriculture.
• Public concern over the potential liabilities.
• Public protest and the potential effect on the future of the industry.

A. Potential benefits of applying GE to agriculture:
• Ancient food crops would acquire useful properties.
  • Delayed rotting
  • Nutrient enhancement
  • Insect resistance
  • Increased production
  • Reduced water and fertilizer utilization

B. Public concern over potential liabilities involved with GE crops:
• Source of food allergens
• Unknown effect on the local ecosystem where crops are grown
• Genetic pollution of non-GE plant population

C. Protest and the potential effect on the GE industry:
• Organizing at a rapid rate due to electronic communication
• FDA policy not fully developed
• Public wants labeling
• Industry reluctant to label due to negative marketing effect
• Public debate occurring in developed world
• Must profound benefits will occur in the developing world