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**Many people believe *Non-GMO* is equal or superior to *Organic*.**

If you happen to be one who believes this, please read on.

- ⊗ Non-GMO labels and farmer claims of Non-GMO feed are EXCLUSIVE to the SEED with indifference to chemicals.
- ⊗ Non-GMO claims are unregulated. Without evidence of third party verification, there is no accountability.
- ⊗ Non-GMO grains used to produce livestock feed and food products were sprayed with herbicides and pesticides.
- ⊗ There are over 100 herbicides available to both Non-GMO and GMO farmers.
- ⊗ Rates of chemical applications are potentially higher with Non-GMO methods.
- ⊗ Non-GMO feed and food products contain similar, if not identical chemical residues as GMO products.
- ⊗ Some chemicals applied to Non-GMO crops leave systemic residues (cannot be washed off).
- ⊗ These chemical residues also bioaccumulate in the fat of chickens, hogs and cattle consuming Non-GMO feed.
- ⊗ Glyphosate, aka Roundup, is used ubiquitously with both GMO and Non-GMO crops.
- ⊗ Glyphosate is commonly used for whole field *burn-down* prior to planting.
- ⊗ The *burn-down* process used by both GMO and Non-GMO produces a lifeless scorched-earth appearance.

**Are you okay with feeding your family foods produced on chemically-burned lifeless soils?**

**Are you following the increasing concerns associating Glyphosate with health issues?**

**Are you aware that Glyphosate residues are now found in human breast milk and urine?**

**Are you familiar with the history of the likes of 2,4-D, Atrazine, Alachlor and Dicamba?**

**Are you aware that research has proven and measured chemical residues on a multitude of foods?**

How can you avoid *GMO's AND Chemicals*?

**Support Farms and Brands that utilize *Certified Organic* Grains.**

(Certified Organic has never allowed GMO's, synthetic herbicides or pesticides.)

### **Purchasing Decision Guide**

#### **In the Supermarket:**

If the label states Non-GMO with no further redundant claim of Certified Organic, the grains used to produce that product were produced with conventional herbicides and pesticides.

#### **At the Farm:**

If a farm is claiming Non-GMO feed (or Conventional feed) with no further claim of Certified Organic, it is HIGHLY likely\* that the farm is using feed that was produced with synthetic herbicides and pesticides.

\*If the farm were to actually be growing it's own Non-GMO crops under the exact protocol of Certified Organic, it is also highly likely that this farm would be displaying "Organic" on their labels and literature. The combination of verifiable claims of Organic with the claim of Pastured is considered by many as the gold standard. In this combination, Organic adds substantial value in the eyes of many consumers while at the same time imposing added expense upon the farmer. Hence, if the farmer is certified organic, or, is devoutly using identical organic methods, this farmer will proudly embellish this added goodness.

***Isn't there a chance that the farmer may not actually be using chemicals with their Non-GMO claim?***

The variables in farming are seemingly infinite so ask your Non-GMO farmer this very question. However, enter that conversation with the understanding that weed control has forever been the bane of farming. Few, if any farmers, can switch off the chemicals cold turkey without realizing substantial reductions in yield and quality. "Non-GMO" is not a new category of seeds. Non-GMO is actually referring to the same hybrid seeds which have been used since the 1930's. Since this same time period, diversity gave way to monoculture while weed, pest and fertility inputs were concurrently derived from synthetic chemicals. These chemicals severely damaged soil biology, further aggravated by inadequate rotational diversity. As such, it now requires many years to transition these depleted soils to perform without chemicals. So...if a Non-GMO farmer tells you they are producing Non-GMO without chemicals, but is unwilling to claim organic, raise an eyebrow and ask lots of questions - as this claim may very well be one-in-a-million.