

Free and non-doped Biodiversity 'Tour de France'

July 5 -27, 2008

Assisted by recent technological advances, the **spirit of competition** may lead to excess, for the benefit of a few, to the prejudice of environment and health.

In Agriculture, some products are doped twice. On the one hand, they are subsidized by State Unions (EU, USA) in order to favour export. On the other hand, crops may contain alien genes (*Genetically Modified Plants*) which provide them with an extra economical value (especially for a few multinationals), less farming effort, at the expense of organic agriculture. Furthermore, free biodiversity represented by '*Peasant seeds*' cannot be sold, exchanged or even given. In 2008, a selection of seeds will start being hibernated in a so-called *Doomsday Seed Vault* rather than letting their offspring adapting to different soils.

In Sport, the 'Tour de France' racers are doped twice, as well. On the one hand, they take advantage of an over-sponsoring. On the other hand, the bikers may contain ingredients aimed at improving performance, with less effort.

Assisted by traditional knowledge, a more temperate view is motivated by the **Spirit of Solidarity**, for the benefit of as many people as possible, through interaction with the environment.

The "Free and non-doped Biodiversity 'Tour de France'", organized by coordinated teams of activists, and covered by relaying citizens, is an instance of joint action aimed at informing the general public.



Bicycle France Map

In July 2008

In black: the doped 'Tour de France' (starting from Brest, West of Bretagne), is represented by segments with arrows that stand each for one stage.

In yellow: the *AlterTour de France* is made of a continuous loop, travelled during the official 'Tour', from the 5th to the 27th of July. There's about 70 miles between the stages Arrival/Departure locations (in orange). At each stage, bikers follow one after the other, in relay.

- Relay route at each stage: Every biker carries a symbol (ex: a green T-shirt, a satchel of peasant seeds, an anti-GMO little flag). (S)he covers a link of a few miles, and gives the symbol to a partner who covers the next link, and so on until the stage Arrival.
- Educational Feast evenings at each stage arrival, involving public debates, movies and talks.
- The loop will go along "Green Pathways" (cycle-tracks, towing-paths, little roads...) and will cross villages which have declared themselves "Free of GMOs".
- Anti-doping controls of crops collected along the tour (corn leaves gathering during the day, evening tests).
- A few numbers: At a quite speed of 10 miles/hr, each biker could cover a link of around 10 miles. With 3 such links in the morning and 4 in the afternoon, the corresponding 7 (groups of) bikers follow each other along a stage of around 70 miles. The full team of bikers wins the AlterTour de France if it can proceed this way along the 21 stages, namely 1500 miles.

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