

Report of NO GMO activities in April, for JIGMOD

Makronova's NO GMO activities were part of **Open week in Makronova**, a traditional event that we organise in favour of Earth Day. This year we in Croatia celebrated 15 years of annotation of Earth Day.

General message of **Open week in Makronova** is: health individual is prerequisite for healthy environment.

Additionally, each year we chose another specific message or theme to which we dedicate that year's Open week. This, 2006, year our themes and activities were especially dedicated to NO GMO informing and education.

All activities are free for public.

Note: All activities of our Institute are dedicated to natural lifestyles that include holistic and sustainable approach to everyday life and health. We can say that all year long we are working on informing and educating public about risks of GMO – through the public lectures, articles in newsletter and our website www.makronova.com (unfortunately it is still only in Croatian language). With this year's Open week activities we wanted to emphasize this issue and are glad that we participated that way in international initiative.

Following was the program that we held (April 22t to 28th):

April 22th

15 years of Earth Day in Croatia - exhibition

19:00 lecture «Immunity of the human and immunity of the Earth»*

April 24th

15:30 – 16:30 Sun regards the Earth – yoga classes

17:00 – 18:00 Exercise that follows the nature – DO IN

19:00 evening lecture

«Closer to Our Innate Abilities – Tendency towards Balance»

April 25th

17:00 – 18:00 Spine of the Earth – bodywork

19:00 evening lecture

«Power of change – Why do We Think Different»

April 26th NO GMO Day

during the morning – workshop for elementary school children on NO GMO themes

17:00 – 18:30 cooking class «Natural foods»

19:00 evening lecture «How do we grow organic?» - guests on the lecture will be farmers and producers of natural foods*

April 27th

15:00 – 17:00 In touch with the Earth
19:00 Natural food cooking show

April 28th

«Organic food – Way to Balance in Everyday life»

guest teacher: Denny Waxman, USA

* all evening lectures were dedicated to the informing public on natural lifestyle options and risks of GMO and organic farming as health and sustainable option

All events were full, and we had about 500 people here during these days, directly.

Indirectly, we reached many more people - through flyers, newsletter, we site and media appearances that were really good.

Special flavour was workshop for children. There is one great teacher Jadranka Bukic Petrovic, who teaches in elementary school. She does great job with her pupils. This year she has 8 years old children, but she also included 9 and 10 years old pupils in the workshop. They had discussions on GMO and food. Although children of that age are probably too young to understand what a GMO is, they are completely aware that this is not something that is OK and they perceive it as unfair and wrong.

For example, here are some of their statements and reactions:

- 1) Before the teacher explained about GMO one boy said that this is something that is not natural, and something very suspicious.
- 2) One girl said «If they are not sure what they're doing, what's going to happen in the end, than it is very dangerous. They play really dangerous game.»
- 3) A girl was upset and angry saying: «How do they know and feel and we don't?!» (after teacher told them the story about animals that make distinction between crops that are GMO and contaminated and noGMO)

(see the photos about their work. Behind them are GMO creatures, from their point of view)