

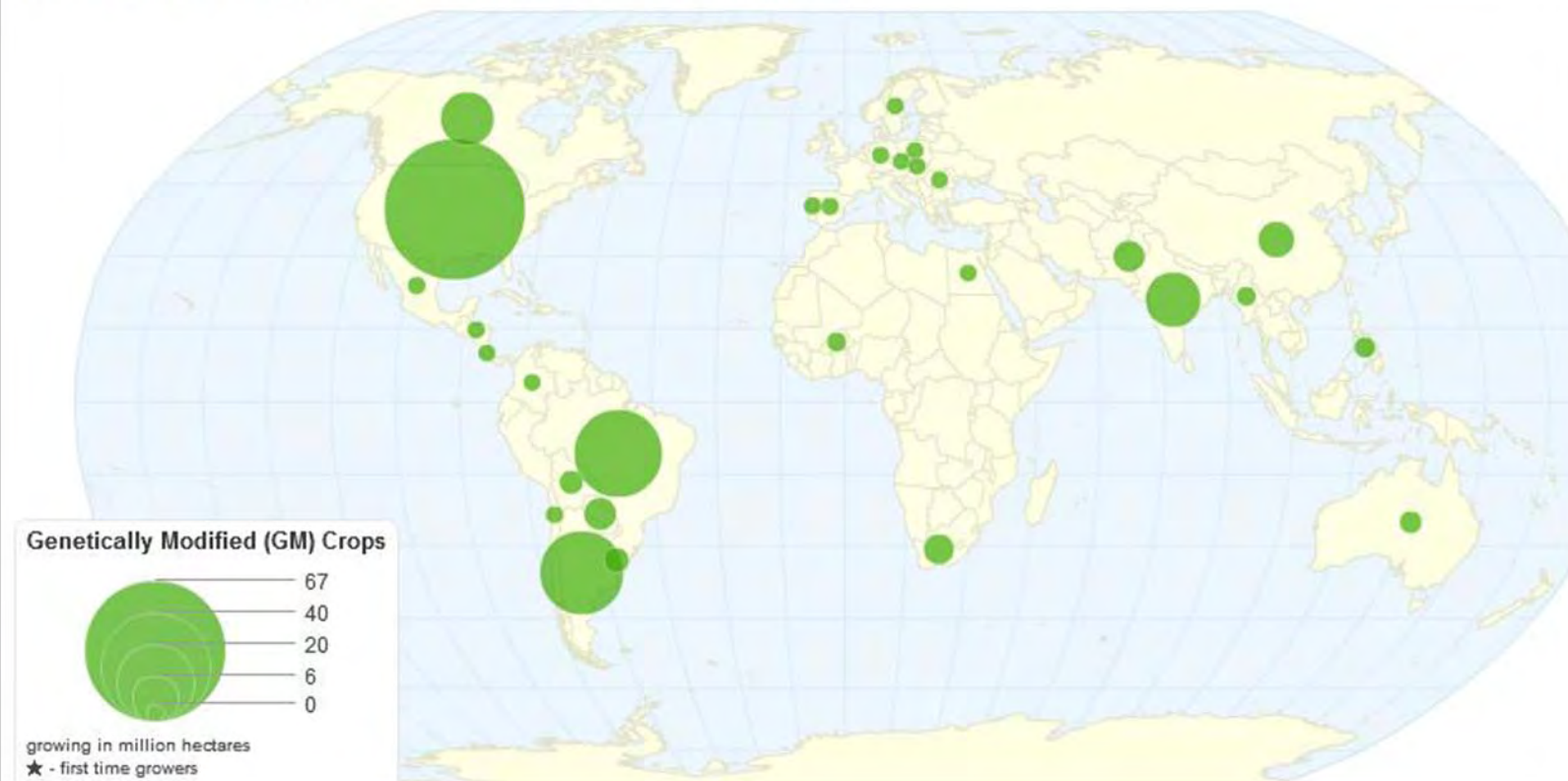
# GMO, spraying in Argentina and the fight of the Mothers of Ituzaingó

## Anexo

Sofía Gatica –María Godoy 2012

# Latin America – a paradise for the biotech industry

Global Distribution of Genetically Modified (GM) Crops



## Expansion of transgenic crops in Argentina:

- Introduction of seeds resistant to glyphosate
- Aerial spraying
- Direct seeding
- Precision Farming



# Results of the massive introduction of GMOs

- Land concentration
- Spraying in the villages close to the plantations
- Environmental damages (soil, forests)
- Loss of biodiversity





# How transnational corporations see the Southern Cone



**República Unida de la Soja**

**La soja no conoce fronteras.**

**La información de Centinela, tampoco.**

Centinela es un servicio de asesoramiento especializado que Syngenta ofrece a todos los productores que utilicen sus productos.

El Programa incluye:

- **Monitoreo pormenorizado de la soja en NOA, NEA, Bolivia, Paraguay y Brasil.**
- **Informes meteorológicos actualizados de cada zona.**
- **Constante intercambio de información con entes oficiales.**
- **Lotes de siembra temprana para anticipar todas las enfermedades foliares.**
- **Trampas cazasporas para control y detección temprana de enfermedades.**
- **Radar Centinela: un reporte semanal con información útil sobre el avance de las enfermedades foliares en la región.**

Con el respaldo de Syngenta y su más efectiva línea de productos para prevenir y combatir todas las enfermedades foliares de la soja.

**Centinela**  
programa regional de información

*Atento en el diagnóstico y a tiempo en el control.*

Para adherirse al Programa Centinela o recibir mayor información, comuníquese al Centro de AgroSoluciones Syngenta: 0-800-444-4804, [agro.soluciones@syngenta.com](mailto:agro.soluciones@syngenta.com) | [www.syngenta.com.ar](http://www.syngenta.com.ar)

**syngenta**  
Mejor agricultura. mejor futuro.

Consiga en su DISTRIBUIDOR SYNGENTA todo lo que su soja necesita para rendir al máximo.

# GMOs in Argentina

- Argentina was the first country in the region to adopt this technology
- 22 million hectares of GMO crops
- 18 million hectares of soya representing 16% of the global production
- Cotton and maize



# Soya in Argentina

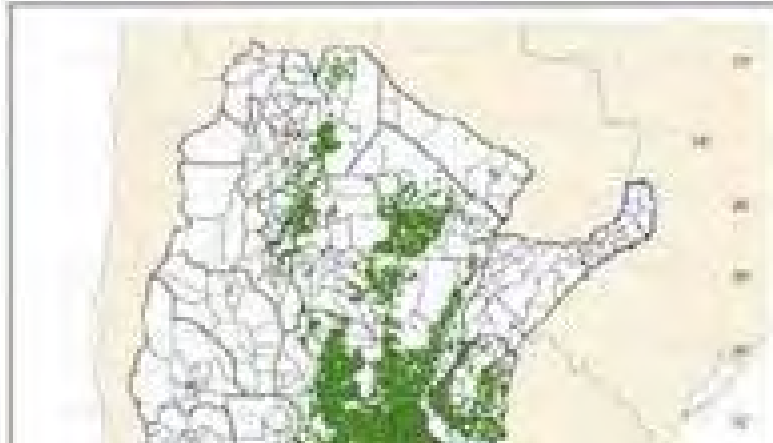
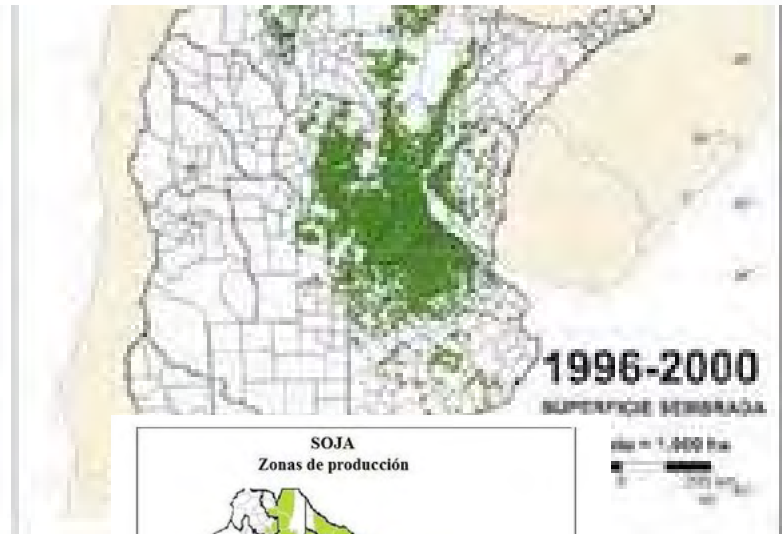
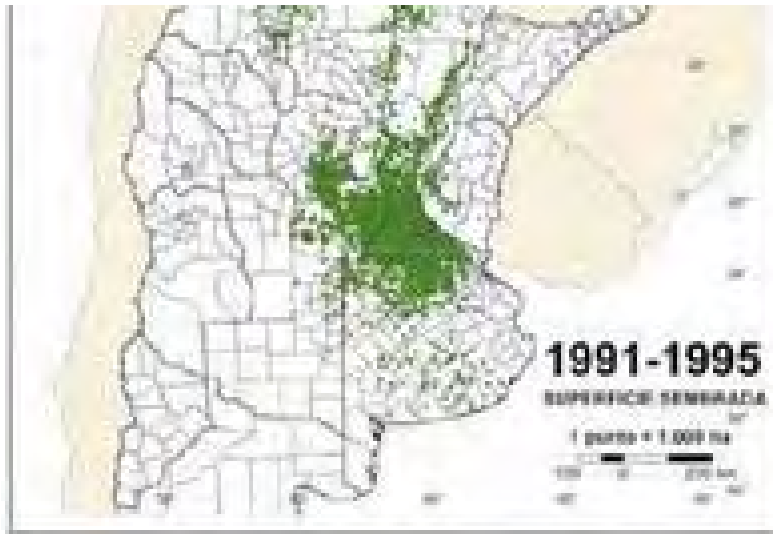


FIGURA 1

2008

# ARGENTINA

- Effects of soy expansion: imports of agrochemicals increased by 47,5% from January to October 2011
- reached 1,938.6 million dollars



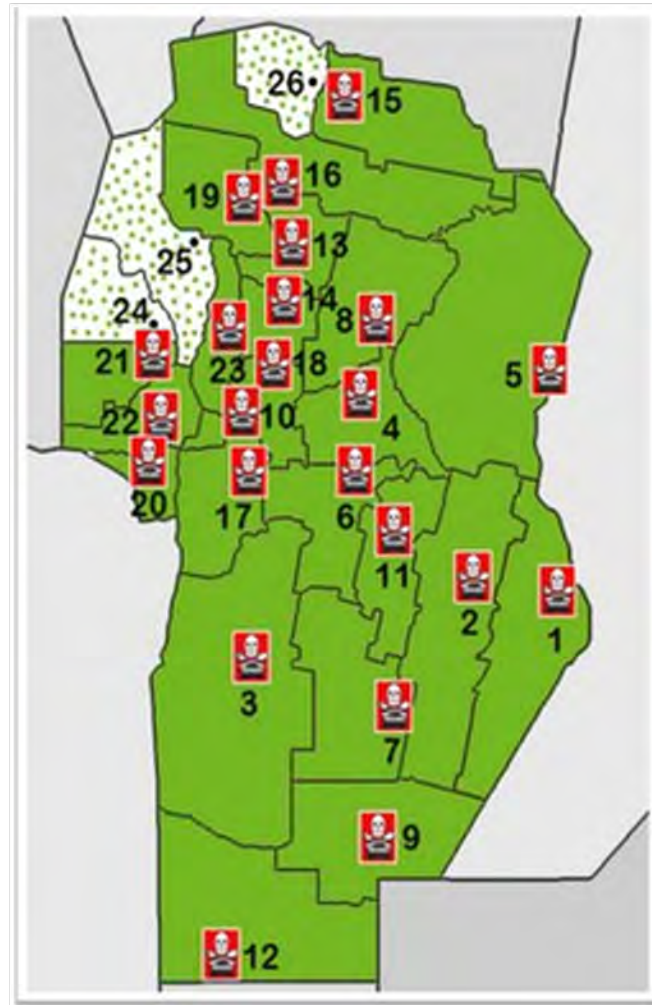


# GMO and agrotoxics

- 50 million tons, 19 million hectares and at least 190 million litres of agrotoxics are sprayed in Argentina's soybean producing areas



This has caused contamination, disease and death in the country



Soya production also caused deforestation and the destruction of ecosystems



Forest are cleared in Santiago del Estero in order to plant soya

# Use of soya: Animal feed

- 
- A black and white photograph of two large, cylindrical industrial grain silos. The silos are constructed from metal panels and have a spiral staircase or ladder wrapped around them. They are set against a sky with scattered clouds. The silo on the left is taller and more prominent, while the one on the right is shorter and partially obscured.
- 40% of the global grain production is used to feed animals
  - this could feed an extra 3.5 billion people
  - at the expense of self-sufficiency



# Agrofuels

- More and more soya is used to produce biodiesel
- NOT used to feed people but to fuel cars
- Business of transnational corporations





# Ituzaingó Anexo surrounded by soy fields



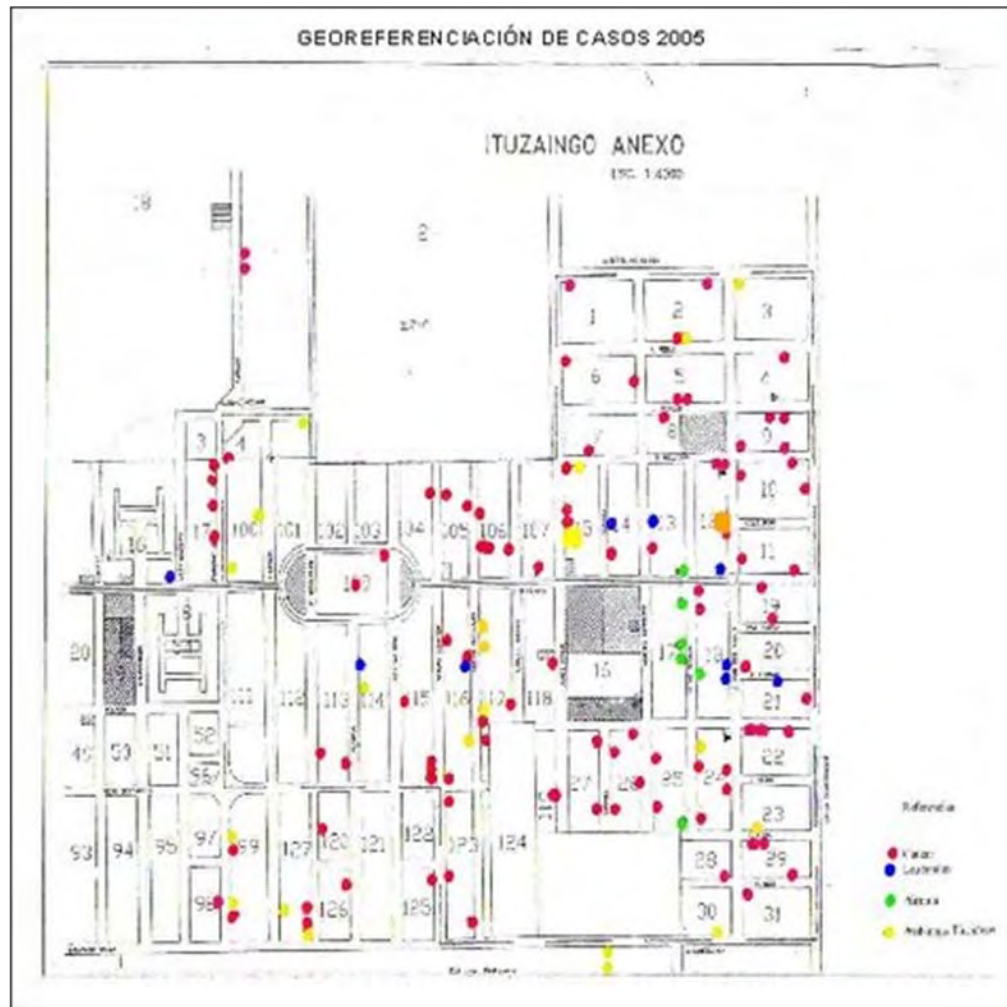
- In 2001 we started to notice people with masks and women with headscarves – due to chemotherapy
- survey carried out in the neighbourhood, house by house
- Many sick people, disabled children, miscarriages

# The fight of the Mothers

- higher concentration of illnesses found close to the soya plantations
- We started to protest because the spraying was killing us
- June 2002: birth of the “Mothers of Ituzaingó”



The points on the map show the illnesses documented in the neighbourhood



Cancer

púrpura

Leucemia

problemas  
tiroideos



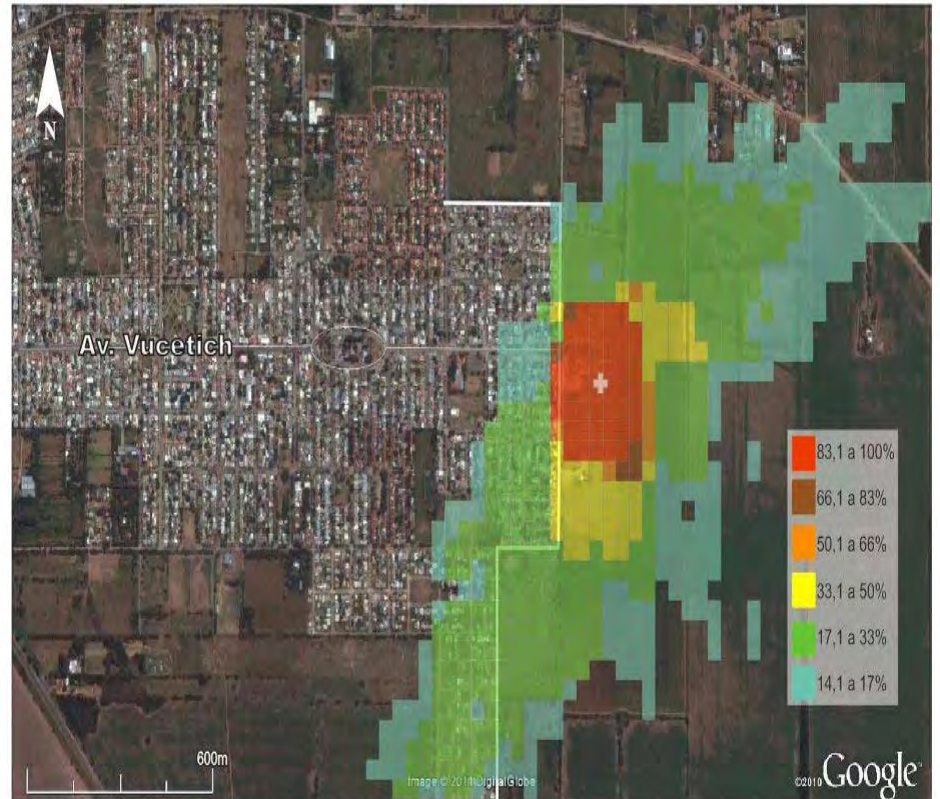
# The group of the Mothers

- we denounced the numerous cases of cancer
- we went to the fields and asked them to stop spraying
- research showed that almost 200 people suffered from cancer and almost 100 died
- “unfortunately, no soil testing and follow-up of sick children”
- nobody has assumed responsibility



# Neighbourhood of Ituzaingó Anexo

- Until 2010, 169 cases of cancer and more than 30 deaths due to cancer in Ituzaingó Anexo (Córdoba)
- other illnesses related to the contamination





# Ituzaingó and GM soya

- We have filed many legal complaints to stop the spraying
- 11 February 2004: we filed a complaint with the public prosecutor because in the “fields of Parra” – east of the district – agrotoxics were sprayed with ground equipment („mosquito“)
- The assistant prosecutor investigated the situación
- remains of the agrotoxics used were identified, soil contained chloroorganic and phosphorus compounds, 2.4D and chlorpyriphos.

# Stop spraying!

- The group “Paren de Fumigar” (Stop spraying) was founded
- includes villages which were also affected by spraying



# 11 June: trial against soya farmers and pilot of pesticide-spraying aircraft



- two legal complaints against illegal spraying (2004 and 2008) heard together
- This hidden genocide has to be punished

The court found that the uncontrolled spraying has multiplied the cases of cancer



# Court ruling

- The court convicted Pancello (pilot) and Parra (soya farmer), both were given conditional sentences of three years
- Gabrielli (soya farmer) was acquitted
- The Mothers are dissatisfied with the conditional sentences, but the ruling sets a precedent
- The defense wants to appeal the decision





# What do we want?

- Improvement of our living conditions, recognition as people with dignity and rights
- Stop the irrational use of agrochemicals and the contamination



# We want compensation

- We want our lives back as they were before the spraying started
- Compensation (physical and moral) for the damages
- Rehabilitation of our health and the ecosystem



# What we want

- Punishment of the polluters and the authorities for not preventing the contamination
- Guarantee that the spraying will not be repeated



# Malvinas Argentinas

- on the first day of the trial, Monsanto announced the plan to establish the world's largest GMO maize seed factory, 10 Km of Ituzaingó
- The neighbours say **!NO!**

