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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!! May God bless you in 2010. The *valuable* things -are *not things!*

# KOW Ruminations

**Unlocking the Mystery of Life** is about the origin of life from a **genetic** perspective. The DVD reveals how **scientific** evidence is leading away from Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection and overwhelmingly pointing to intelligent design. (Available at [www.go2rpi.com](http://www.go2rpi.com); 800-266-7741.)

*Fully independent soil consulting-agronomy-nutrition. We do dairy nutrition from the soil up.*

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## When in Doubt, Grow More Forage Legumes Next Year

*Agronomic outlook for confinement -row crop dairy not good*

I suppose the title goes against what "everybody else" has been tellin' ya to do and must *sound crazy* (what's new?!) . . . especially since you now have the opportunity to buy *super-duper stacked* bio-tech traits that'll make those row crops *indestructible* (ha!). Recently, during continued university education (for credits to maintain my lofty © CCA credentials) we were introduced to the latest offering by Monsanto and Dow Agrosiences called Smartstax™ corn hybrids. These include 6 bt insecticidal traits, plus 2 herbicide tolerant traits, all rolled into one! I think the name is suppose to imply that *real smart fellers* will be buying this ©. Yet, *in the long term*, I cannot help but wonder how far Bio-tech *magic* can carry (rescue) us (from our collective *stupidity*). As I look at our ag system, both from an *economic* and production management perspective, it's a "house of cards" ready to implode, with an over extended, bloated and *gluttonous* federal government leaning against it! The Representatives (who do they ?) in Washington continue to talk *seriously* about *raising* taxes and, are considering legislation that will

*significantly* increase the cost of **energy** (fuel) –only *fools* think this will result in *wealth* for *farmers* (maybe wealth for some few that "farm" farmers, yes). In the last few (short) years, we have seen the *overuse* of herbicide resistant and insect toxic bio-engineered crops and they have begun to *fail*. This in spite of promotion (mostly mere talk) of diverse herbicide programs and *refuge* acres to *slow* the **selection** for resistant weeds and insects (by the way, refuge acres are *reduced* from 20% down to only 5% required with Smartstax™). Some misunderstand how weeds and insects "develop" resistance, *erroneously* thinking it's some sort of demonstration of *Darwinian evolution*. It's actually the opposite. There is no survival *mutation* or *new* genetic code produced. The only (simple) thing happening is that there already exists (*always* existed) *individual* weeds / bugs that possess (already) the ability to survive the poison (kind of like the guy that lives 90 years while guzzling booze everyday). These bugs / weeds merely survive to *reproduce*; hence, they take over the population. The refuge acres are / were intended to

**Who's lookin' out for you?** Government-corporate ("public-private") "Partnerships" ... What's the "end game"? Watch for the next big "crisis" that can *only(?)* be solved by international socialism. The code words: "food security."

### **Monsanto Opens First Biotechnology Research Center in China**

Excerpts from *Agri-View*, Nov. 19, 2009 (Emphasis [and notes] added by T.W.)

Monsanto Company announced recently that it is opening its first research center in [red communist] China ... The Monsanto Biotechnology Research Center in Zhongguancun, Beijing, will strengthen the company's ties with [red communist] Chinese research ... Monsanto currently invests more than \$2 million a day in research in order to meet this commitment to **global** [socialist?] agriculture ... The Beijing research center will ... serve as a base for collaborations with [red communist] Chinese scientists.

### **Biotech Companies Limiting University Research**

Excerpts from *Feedstuffs*, March 16, 2009, by Jacqui Fatka

There is an increasing number of acres of transgenic crops grown in the U.S., but university researchers sometimes find themselves unable to provide unbiased feedback ... At the center of the scientists' concerns are technology/stewardship agreements **required** for the purchase of genetically modified seed that **explicitly prohibit** research ... **no truly independent research can be legally conducted** ... IRM (insect resistance management) ... Unlike other inputs such as pesticides or conventional seeds, scientists cannot go through regular commercial channels to purchase a bag of biotech seed and do independent research, explained Elson Shields, professor and extension entomologist at Cornell University ... problems researchers have faced include companies refusing to approve data found in trials ... threatening lawsuits ... Frequently, companies have tried to change research protocols to better suit information they want released. "That kind of control has the potential to bias research" Shields said ... Ken Ostlie, professor and extension entomologist at the University of Minnesota, experienced a company restriction firsthand ... The threat of industry blacklisting is real to researchers ... Ostlie said, "They can effectively shut down research by individual scientists, resulting in career suicide for young faculty who must publish in order to achieve . .

make sure *normal* pests could survive to reproduce too. Don't get me wrong, I am not *entirely* opposed to the *infrequent* use of Bio-tech. Round-up Ready® (glyphosate tolerant) alfalfa would be a great tool for eliminating Kentucky 31 fescue (for example). My concern is in the *cost* (tech fees *demanding* more and more) and lack of *genetic diversity* (things get narrower and *narrower*). In business, fewer choices trends toward monopoly (and *over*-pricing). In the arena of nature, there's the *general principle* that if you have only one "card to play", *something* (insect, fungus, weed) is eventually going to get the upper hand, and beat you *real bad*. Usually just takes one of those "perfect storm", just *wrong* weather events / patterns to bring out the *weakness*. All the eggs in one basket **get smashed**. Hey, and with this "*Climate change*" ☺ thing (hoax!), even the folks that are *sure* I'm nutz 99% of the time should be on-board with me here! ☺

Concerns about the **next** level of resistance emerging are spoken of *openly* in these educational seminars on Bio-tech, but there seems to be a spirit of "Oh well, this is what's next, let's concern ourselves with that **tomorrow**." A few voices are still confident with "no

### **Listening to Brilliant Experts May Be Dangerous**

"There is usually only a limited amount of damage that can be done by dull or stupid people. **For creating a truly monumental disaster, you need people with high IQs.**" -*Urging fellow citizens to beware generally of brainy people, columnist Thomas Sowell points out that they have been very wrong at great cost in the past and the pattern hasn't changed.* -T.N.A., 11-23-09.

matter, they'll just come up with something else whenever it's needed." (It's the same mentality that congress is using for economics.) I'm not so confident bio-tech can "peddle fast enough" to stay ahead of the resistance selection process *they are promoting*. Maybe that just makes me an *ignorant* KOWboy, or maybe that makes me a wise, prudent, skeptic. Time will tell. How dare I question the brilliant experts ☺ ?!

### **Nature's fungicide: cayenne pepper**

USDA researchers at the Food and Feed Safety Research Unit, Southern Regional Research Center (1100 Robert E Lee Blvd, New Orleans, LA, 70124, ph 504-286-4253, fx 4419, contact Anthony J. DeLucca at [anthony.delucca@ars.usda.gov](mailto:anthony.delucca@ars.usda.gov)) have discovered that cayenne pepper contains antifungal compounds. Farmers, *especially organic* farmers, may want to *experiment* with hot pepper spray or dusting applications wherever mold / fungus concerns are present. Cayenne pepper is effective against many fungal pathogens that attack everything from *skin* (ringworm?) to *grain* (aspergillus, fusarium).

Dairymen may read this and say, "So what, I've got a good crop rotation and don't need Bio-tech to 'bail me out' of disease, insect, and weed trouble." **I agree wholeheartedly that most of those problems can be prevented with a diverse, frequent crop rotation** (the KOW website [www.kowconsulting.com] gives my historical position / promotion on this). *Dairymen don't need bio-engineering* to be successful! However, the ever *narrowing genetic base* of especially corn, and fewer choices to buy that seed (near monopoly?) should

Why “cap and trade”, “carbon credit” payments will not bless American Farmers, evidence that it's based upon a *scientific hoax* and a *sinister* political agenda. The science is not settled. This is no longer a matter to be dismissed with laughter. After “*climate change*” comes “*food security crisis*”—another grand *collective* (socialist) “solution.”—T.W.

“More than 31,000 U.S. scientists have signed a petition challenging the climate alarmists’ claims ([www.petitionproject.org](http://www.petitionproject.org)) and more than 700 distinguished international scientists from dozens of countries (<http://epw.senate.gov>) have issued statements contesting major theses of the climate alarmists.”

The *greater* hoax will be a huge *international* energy **tax** paid by United States *small businesses*—including dairy farms. November 2009 *Hoard's Dairyman* reports a **global dairy agenda for action** website ([www.dairy-sustainabilityinitiative.org](http://www.dairy-sustainabilityinitiative.org)). It purports to share “best practices” “to reduce carbon emissions” and “address global warming.” I’m of the *considered* opinion that small business dairy **farmers** are the ones in the best position to make decisions about how to run their farms for optimum efficiency—not some global bureaucrat!—T.W.

**Lord Christopher Monckton, former science adviser to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher**, October 2009, said: “At Copenhagen this December ... a treaty will be signed. Your President will sign it. Most the Third World countries will sign it, because they think they’re going to get money out of it ... I read that treaty. And what it says is this, that a world government is going to be created ... the ... purpose is the transfer of wealth from the countries of the West to third world countries, in satisfaction of what is called, coyly, “climate debt” ... **Monckton says** the communists “piled out of the Berlin Wall and into the environmental movement.” “They are about to impose a **communist** world government on the world.” Quotes from *The New American*, November 23, 2009, pg. 44. For clean air and water??

give us reason to pause to think. Are most corn seed salesmen selling the *same* genetic package under a different label? Does this have anything to do with the *increased* fungal diseases, *promotion* of fungicide use, greater concern with mold / mycotoxins the past couple of years? I would recommend you find a small *non*-Bio-tech source to buy your corn seed from in the future. If you are not aware of any, I’d suggest two: Master’s Choice, Inc., 3010 St Rt 146 East, Anna, IL, 62906, ph 866-444-1044, [www.mchybrids.com](http://www.mchybrids.com); American Organic Seed & Grain, Art Scheele, PO Box 385, Warren, IL, 61087, ph 815-266-4010, [www.american-organic.com](http://www.american-organic.com). I do not receive any remuneration for the sale of either seed source. The only reason I’m listing these is because they are a couple (of very few) corn genetics suppliers that are not following the mainstream, and therefore can bring the added *safety* of *non*-bio-engineered **genetic diversity** to your corn program. Master’s Choice has much to offer in both grain and silage hybrids with improved digestibility (starch and fiber). American Organics uniquely promotes **high oil** corn (something I have l-o-n-g promoted as a *grain* source) which is not only superior in energy density, but

also **less susceptible to grain fungal disease** (*potential* mycotoxin production). No- (never) till farming and *lack of* a diverse crop rotation ensures the **greatest** potential number of mold spores will be present to attack your grain crops. Beside a good rotation, *resistant* plant selection would be prudent. *Conventional wisdom* has merely *added* a fungicide program for corn. Why? I understand the Bio-tech argument for how the insecticidal traits can prevent insect damage (which in turn creates openings / injury sites for mold)—but (how) long term? We need *tillage* and a *better* rotation. Dairy farmers can do that best.

Nevertheless, I hope to convince more of our clients of the wisdom of **reducing** their number of **row crop acres** and going further toward producing **protein** and **digestible fiber** and **mineral** nutrition and **vitamins** via **forage legumes** (primarily **alfalfa** and **clover**). Row crop forages (and grains) *require* a very significant investment in *mechanization and fuel* for harvest, storage and feeding. Forage legumes not only provide high concentrations of *protein and minerals* inherently (by genetic design—*without need for significant supplementation to complete rations*), but can also provide 100% of **vitamin** needs (*without any supplementation if grazed [not stored and comprising at least 2/3 of the forage in a high forage feeding program—as KOW literature would define]*). Furthermore, **grazing** forage **significantly reduces** the need/benefit of supplemental “energy” in the form of **grain**. Please consider that **if** something were to happen that would *reduce the value* of the U.S. dollar in 2010, the cost of (*imported*) **fuel** (in U.S. dollars) would go up—*maybe* significantly! As oil energy cost goes up, so does **grain** energy cost. As more *grain* is diverted to produce ethanol fuel (to replace *imported* oil), and more acres move out of soy and into *corn*, the price of soy will climb *even higher* (than it already is). When the cost of soy

November 2009, *Hoard's Dairyman*, by J. W. Dunn  
**The greater the incentive to produce ethanol, the higher feed prices will be.**

Ethanol has led to enormous volatility in the price of corn and other crops in the past few years.  
**Encouraged by government programs** ... There is no way to hit the goal of replacing a significant amount of gasoline consumption with ethanol without throwing the corn market (and all other major crop markets) **into complete chaos**. The \$8 corn of mid-2008 was within the context of much less ethanol production than we expect this year.

rises, it brings the feed market for *all* soy (protein) *substitutes* higher –it has historically anyway. Gee, if only we could have the federal government bail us out ... The federal farm program is a good example of a bad *socialist* system that we are now reaping the harvest of.

Will *more* of the *same* poison cure our economic sickness? *Maybe* I'm all wrong in my understanding of economics and government –and all this government intervention is really “chemotherapy” meant to cure ... but what if I'm correct? *Just in case*, **please** spend some time this winter considering **grazing** as an alternative harvest and feeding method.

Corn (and other *highly nitrogen fertilizer dependent* crops) can be economically grown whenever **in rotation following a legume**, but it still requires mechanical harvest and therefore should, ideally, be limited to **grain** production needs (if you have the extra acres for it) on a dairy farm (*exception* to this would be Master's Choice

Master *Graze*<sup>TM</sup> BMR corn hybrid). A more energy *efficient* option for *mechanical* harvest and storage of corn **grain** is **snaplage** (kernel, cob and husk combined) which is done by a chopper configured with a “*snapper*” head and kernel processor and/or re-cutter screen (*must* smash / pulverize all kernels!) at approximately 40% moisture into, *ideally*, a silo bag.

However, beyond use of **snaplage** as a homegrown grain source I would like to *discourage* excessive use of corn for whole plant (harvested mechanically) silage. While the *reasoning* behind *discouraging high* corn silage rations has been covered extensively in *historical* KOW literature ([www.kowconsulting.com](http://www.kowconsulting.com)), the **logic** behind *avoiding* excessive feeding of corn stalk to lactating cows is even greater today, and *likely* ever more so in the future. (If you *must* use whole plant corn silage in your forage / feeding plan, make it a BMR [brown midrib] hybrid in order to significantly reduce the lignin in the stalk.) Corn stalk is low quality fiber.

Excerpts from ***The Farm Problem*** (ISBN-0-910614-72-5) published July 1986 by The Foundation for economic Education, Inc. (ph 914-591-7230, fx 8910, [www.fee.org](http://www.fee.org)) (emphasis added):

from **A Pattern for Failure** by John Chamberlain

The *Freeman's* chief reviewer, John Chamberlain, touches again on the farm problem as he reviews in the May 1985 issue a book by Swedish economist Sven Rydenfelt, *A Pattern for Failure: Socialist Economies in Crisis*. In his study of “state planning” in more than a dozen countries of **socialist** leaning, Professor Rydenfelt sees the results in the form of **crop failure** and **famine** ... a general proposition endorsed by Milton Friedman ... wherever there is detailed central economic planning the ordinary man suffers ... **socialist governments mess up their agricultural policies**, bringing starvation by their treatment of the peasants ... Communist and socialist governments, no matter how they come to power, are impelled by Marxist theory to favor the industrial proletariat. Partly this is due to Marx's own contempt for what he considered the stupidity of country life. Depending on the city workers to keep them in power, socialist governments fix the price they are willing to pay the peasants at a point that is low enough to **guarantee cheap food** to the urban masses ... there are no exceptions to Rydenfelt's rule that, **where socialism prevails, starvation is just around the corner**.

from **Agriculture and the Survival of Private Enterprise** by Ed Grady

“Private enterprise can, and shall, survive in America,” testifies Mr. Grady. And so he has testified for more than 30 years professionally telling the story of freedom. He was manager of the information division of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation when this essay appeared in the August 1979 issue of *The Freeman* ... If there is one lesson that history tells us again and again it is that **concentration of power and authority in “big government”** is, eventually and certainly, followed by the **loss of personal freedom**. And let us never forget that **no man's future is safe in the hands of a political philosophy that is willing to buy today's popularity with tomorrow's agony**. Economic freedom is the foundation of political freedom. The two are inseparable. Make no mistake about it; every time we transfer responsibility and power to a central government, we transfer responsibility and power away from the people ... many are willing to trade freedom for security ... when a people seek to obtain security by turning over power and responsibility to government, **they lose both freedom and security** ... there simply is no real security in ... centralized political and economic control ... Life in such societies is grim and drab and desperate ... For a physician, the least profitable patient is a dead one. The next least profitable is the well one. The gold mine is the patient who continues sick, or continues to think himself sick. The **nobility** of the medical profession is the fact that few of us have ever had an encounter with doctors who exploit this obvious truth. But **not always so with politicians** ... Government farm policy ... is borrowed from the strategy and tactics of the coercive society and its centrally-directed and centrally-controlled economy. It serves well neither producers nor consumers ... **it is a scheme to control farmers** ... for politically-determined **limitations** on the farm incomes ... it makes matters worse ... the **myth** that there is a magical way by which governments can create prosperity and high standards of living by either ignoring or flouting **economic laws** ... in search of the pot of gold that is supposed to be found at the end of the **socialist** rainbow ...

The dairy management model utilizing *cheap* fuel, *cheap* by-products and supplements, *cheap* fertilizer and chemical inputs while housing / feeding cows in *total* confinement is a “dinosaur” headed toward extinction (in a high energy / input cost situation -unless *heavily* subsidized [bailed out?] by big gov, but *even then*, **not** sustainable because **socialism is a failure**). As I write, the federal government continues its march toward fascism (by Webster’s definition) **nationalizing** major parts of the U.S. economy while **monetizing** the debt created by this insane (historically record-breaking) spending binge. **The laws of economics will not (cannot) be changed by the U.S. Congress.** The value of the U.S. dollar *will fall hard in this next year (unless we turn back, I pray so!)*. **All** the things you can think of that are priced in the **global** marketplace will get very expensive for us Americans. Interest rates will **need to** go sky-high to correct for the **inflation** of our currency. As the national economy falls, we all best be looking for a *soft* place to land. Do not believe those telling you it’ll get better as before or that the recession is over (*unless we have a major change in economic policy / direction in the federal government*)! We are on a glide path *into a mountainside*. I wish I could believe otherwise. **Be sure interest rates on all your loans are locked in**, because when the (hyper?) inflation starts as **a consequence of government overspending** (*printing* money), interest rates will **have to** skyrocket. This is as sure as gravity –or the dollar will be *worthless* (that *might* be in the “global” plan).

The *softest* place I can see to land is a **pasture**. Those who have already implemented *managed* grazing have not only *suffered* the turbulence of the past year (milk pricing) with *less* injury (than intensive confinement / row-crop dairy), but are also better prepared to “touch and go” with the *inevitable* market swings on future *inputs*. Grazing, inherently, is a *low input* farming system. Confined feeding is, inherently, a higher input and *purchased energy dependent* system. If grazing could be compared to a glider catching and riding on the wind, intensive row crop based confinement dairy would be a jet fighter in contrast. While the glider pilots don’t fly as high or make as much noise with their machine, neither do they cost as much to keep up in the air or make as big a fireball when they have an *unplanned landing* ☺. Both require a highly skilled pilot. Those fighter jets have been dropping out of the sky the past few months and without more *easy credit fuel*, many

more jet engines will be silenced. Don’t let his be you at 30,000 ft! Much easier to land that flying contraption with a *gradual* descent (onto the pasture) than in a steep panic dive looking for an open space. One *could* start this gradual descent by, at least, putting the **heifers** down on the pasture. The best *training flight* into **managed** grazing would be with the heifers. Heifers and their managers suffer “*falling gracefully*” much better than cows in milk ☺, and the animals too need to be *trained* for best results if/ when they become the “milk wagons” *harvesting* pasture. Cows and managers that have been **trained** to land and take-off from a pasture base will be most successful at capturing the maximum amount of available **free (solar) energy** required to keep their operations flying into the future. Those **addicted** to too much diesel, electricity and *artificial* government market supports (**even the “carrot” of carbon credit payments for manure digesters capturing methane**) are at great risk. Best start building that *smooth* runway by utilizing *all* available (even rough, distant) ground for grazing heifers and planting legume-grass mixed forages that *could be grazed* by the milking herd (with alfalfa-grass mixtures and annuals such as sorg-sudangrass or cereal / small grains as dual purpose options). Furthermore, forage dry matter production per acre utilizing the full (*entire*) growing season with perennial forage and **grazable** annuals *can be* high yielding **if** double-cropping strategies are employed. Examples: consider the cropping / grazing sequence of 1<sup>st</sup> alfalfa / grass harvested and followed by sorg-sudangrass, interseeded with oat / turnips in late summer **or** winter cereal rye established following a harvest (mechanical) of corn for **snaplage** (and possibly stalks for *bedding* or a portion of **dry** cow feed). The winter rye may be inter-frost seeded with red clover and *grazed* in early spring, then harvested mechanically in late spring / early summer and (*immediately*) *interseeded* with BMR forage sorghum-soybean mix for one late summer harvest. This followed (*immediately*) by fall forage oats (a very **economical, productive, underutilized** forage!). These are *non*-bio-engineered examples (no tech fees!) used in a diverse rotation strategy (that *could* still be planted with a no-till drill). All intended to be rotated frequently with a base of perennial **legumes**. Of course, *some* land could be devoted to *near*-permanent (long term) pasture as (kura?) clover-grass (fescue?) mixtures. Before spring, re-read the information at [www.kowconsulting.com](http://www.kowconsulting.com) pertaining to **grazing**, especially the Aug-Sept 2005, title “**Ultra-Low Grain Feeding ...**”.

**The New American**, November 23, 2009

Allen Rutledge (Capital Planning and Investments, Atlanta-based), “**So what are Americans to do?**”

“The ultimate protection is savings, hard assets, and morality. The only way to recover is for people to return to individual responsibility ... religion governs morality, which governs responsibility, which governs behavior and political choices. The two things we’re told never to discuss, religion and politics, are the only things that matter...Build integrity and unify morality to all aspects of your life...Less individual responsibility means more rules...To the extent that we all ignore God in our own moral codes, we’re inviting government intervention. While doing or own housecleaning, we should demand that government return to its **constitutional** jurisdiction and put it on a fiscal diet and strict curtailment of its present **unauthorized** functions.”