Organic-funded anti-GMO group calls for investigation of whether USDA covered up dangers

A "watchdog" organization is calling on the U.S. Senate and House agriculture committees and the inspector general at the USDA to investigate a possible coverup for Monsanto and whether USDA scientists were harassed for questioning the safety of Roundup and other Big Ag products.

The call from U.S. Right to Know for review follows a report on March 27 from Reuters news service, which cited a claim from the the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility: "Some scientists working for the federal government are finding their research restricted or censored when it conflicts with agribusiness industry interests.... At least 10 USDA scientists have been investigated or faced other consequences arising from research that called into question the safety of certain agricultural chemicals.... Research into glyphosate, the key ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup herbicide, and neonicotinoid insecticides, which have been linked to honey bee and monarch butterfly endangerment, face particular scrutiny..."

Gary Ruskin, executive director of U.S. Right to Know, said, "If true, this is a major scandal at USDA. It is not the proper role of the USDA to engage in a cover up for Monsanto or other agrichemical companies."

Read full, original article: <u>Report: USDA scientists harassed for questioning Roundup's safety</u>