

HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT STARBUCKS

Despite rising consumer concerns, **Starbucks refuses** to guarantee that the milk, chocolate, ice cream, and baked goods they are selling are free of recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (rBGH) and other genetically engineered ingredients (including soy derivatives and corn sweeteners).

Most Starbucks outlets are still using milk coming from dairies which allow cows to be injected with Monsanto's controversial Bovine Growth Hormone, a hormone often associated with higher risks for cancer in humans. rBGH is a powerful drug which cruelly damages the health of dairy cows, forcing them to give more milk. Milk from rBGH-injected cows is also likely to contain more pus, antibiotic residues, and bacteria. **rBGH is banned in every industrialized country in the world — except for the United States.**

Although Starbucks has recently bowed to consumer pressure and begun selling certified Fair Trade, Shade Grown (organic or transition to organic) coffee beans in bulk, they are refusing to brew and seriously promote Fair Trade coffee, **unlike a number of other gourmet coffee shops or companies.**

Despite promises made since 1995 to improve the wages and working conditions of impoverished workers on the coffee plantations of its suppliers in Guatemala and other nations, **Starbucks has done little or nothing.**

Although biotechnology corporations are currently field testing genetically engineered decaffeinated coffee beans, **Starbucks has not taken a public stand** on whether or not they intend to sell these GE coffee beans in the future.

FIND OUT MORE AT www.organicconsumers.org