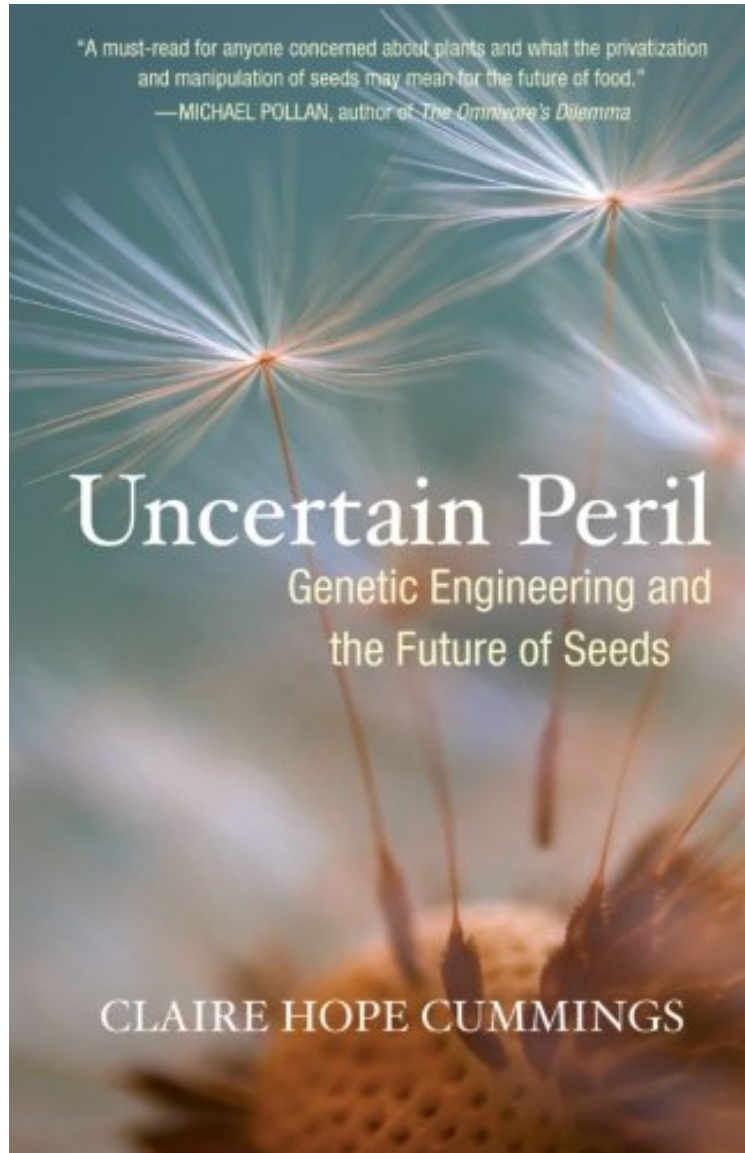


(Download) Uncertain Peril: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds

Uncertain Peril: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds

Claire Hope Cummings

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



 Download

 Read Online

#1353259 in Books Beacon Press 2009-03-01 2009-03-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .56 x 5.501, .75 #File Name: 0807085812256 pages | File size: 53.Mb

Claire Hope Cummings : Uncertain Peril: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Uncertain Peril: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A clarion call to sustain a healthy food legacy By Don Maruska I'm struck by how seeds and the preservation of seeds have defined value in cultures through the ages. Bioneers and seeds of change brought this concept back to modern consciousness over a decade ago. What Cummings has done is

masterfully and passionately focused awareness on just how fragile our legacy is. Her writing is deeply informative and evocative. The words from the end of the Epilogue continue to captivate me. "Seeds are messengers from the past. They are an embodiment of hope for the future... We can be guided by the way of the seed and by knowing that what we do to seeds, we do to ourselves. One thing is certain: the future of seeds is in our hands." Bravo, Ms. Cummings!

10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This Book is Putting Monsanto on the Ropes By Customer We are perilously close to losing our seed heritage to the chemical company Monsanto, but there is still time to act. Ms Cummings lays it all out for us, as scary as can be, but she also gives a plan to reverse the problem, A must-read for anyone who cares about what we eat, and who's in charge.

20 of 23 people found the following review helpful. From a Farmers point of view By jeff chandler I used to work for Monsanto and thought they were wonderful to work for. i got caught up in their science. as i have got older and switched from conventional to organic farming i have been keenly made aware of just what is going on. Seeing my soil come back to life, diversity in wildlife, beneficial insects and microlife is short of a religious experience. to think i was an addict and they were my dealer!!! what corporations are doing with seeds, chemicals and our freedom to farm is true. Anyone denying this, is either bribed, employed by them, or they own lots of stock and could care less what the agenda is. as our culture transformed from a rural to mostly urban one it's easy to see how most people have tuned out what is going on with their food. what a shame. Claire wrote this book with passion, i read it with passion. God, i wish i could meet her. Claire, thank you for this book, great job.

Life on earth is facing unprecedented challenges from global warming, war, and mass extinctions. The plight of seeds is a less visible but no less fundamental threat to our survival. Seeds are at the heart of the planet's life-support systems. Their power to regenerate and adapt are essential to maintaining our food supply and our ability to cope with a changing climate.

In *Uncertain Peril*, environmental journalist Claire Hope Cummings exposes the stories behind the rise of industrial agriculture and plant biotechnology, the fall of public interest science, and the folly of patenting seeds. She examines how farming communities are coping with declining water, soil, and fossil fuels, as well as with new commercial technologies. Will genetically engineered and "terminator" seeds lead to certain promise, as some have hoped, or are we embarking on a path of uncertain peril? Will the "doomsday vault" under construction in the Arctic, designed to store millions of seeds, save the genetic diversity of the world's agriculture? To answer these questions and others, Cummings takes readers from the Fertile Crescent in Iraq to the island of Kaua'i in Hawai'i; from Oaxaca, Mexico, to the Mekong Delta in Vietnam. She examines the plight of farmers who have planted transgenic seeds and scientists who have been persecuted for revealing the dangers of modified genes.

At each turn, Cummings looks deeply into the relationship between people and plants. She examines the possibilities for both scarcity and abundance and tells the stories of local communities that are producing food and fuel sustainably and providing for the future. The choices we make about how we feed ourselves now will determine whether or not seeds will continue as a generous source of sustenance and remain the common heritage of all humanity. It comes down to this: whoever controls the future of seeds controls the future of life on earth.

Uncertain Peril is a powerful reminder that what's at stake right now is nothing less than the nature of the future.