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Argentina sin Alambres

new enclosures: open alternatives

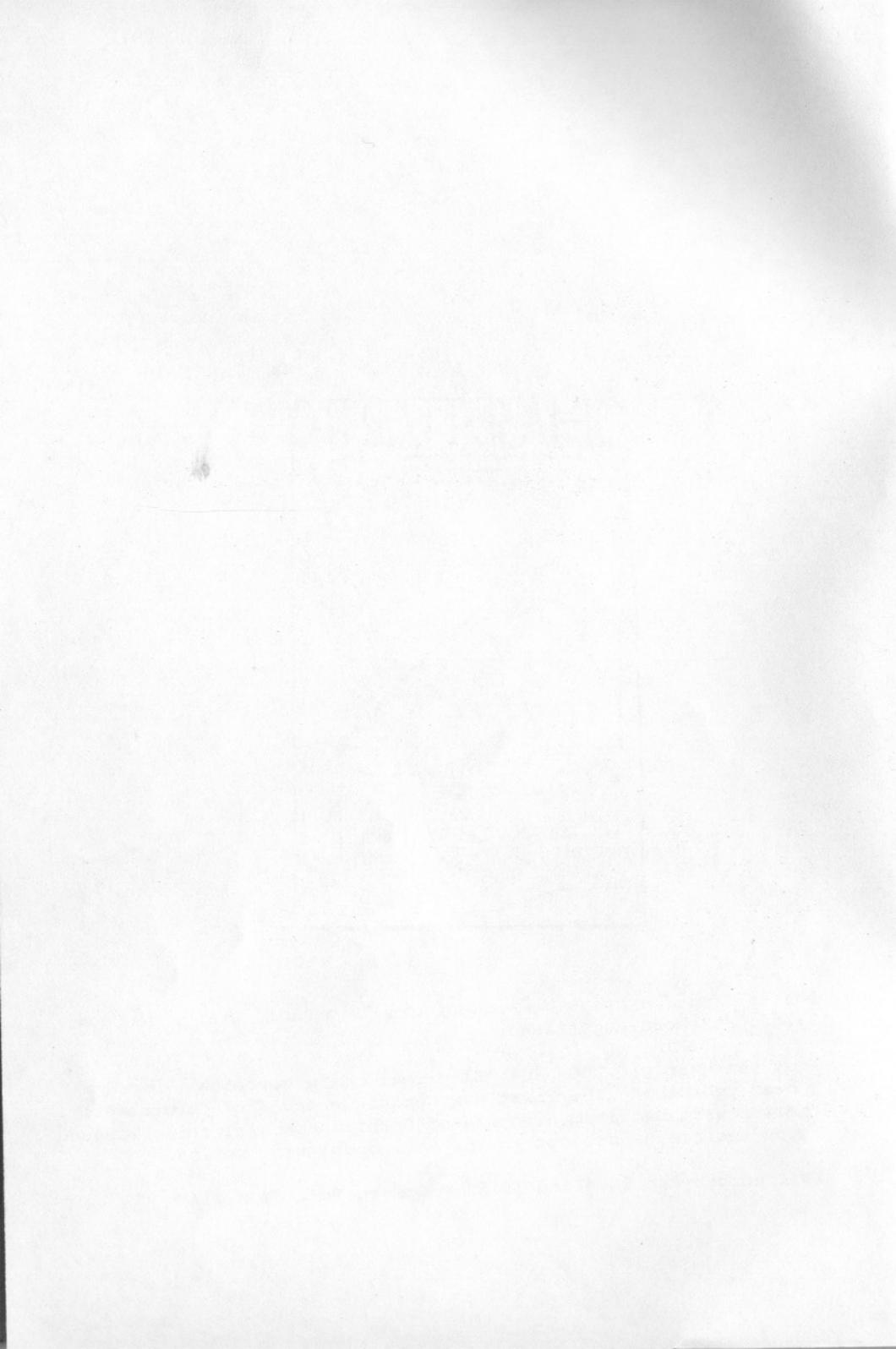




Poster from the Museo de Arqueología "Pio Pablo Díaz", de Cachi Salta, Northern Argentina

From the nearly 1,200-page "El primer nueva corónica y buen gobierno" (The First New Chronicle and Good Government) the longest sustained critique of Spanish colonial rule produced by an indigenous subject in the entire colonial period.

Written between 1600 and 1615 by Guaman Poma de Ayala



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INTRODUCTION

This small book contains texts and illustrations about the new enclosures in Argentina, of the politics of food, oil, technology, and land use in a country under pressure in a globalised world.

Using the rhetoric of the free market, 'opening up the economy', in reality means closing down the possibilities for a sustainable society.

Whilst officially 'free' from IMF debt, the legacy of structural adjustment remains - in the form of export based GM agriculture, the privatisation of petroleum resources and the enclosing of land - creating fences and borders where there were none before.

The 'freedom' of the free market is the freedom to follow one path only: firstly to provide resources for consumer societies in the north, and secondly to use what's left to **become** a consumer society. In the first case this brings a race to the bottom as corporations migrate in search of low wages and the least regulated environment. Rural economies are dismantled, the land is enclosed and a second migration occurs - that of the people to the peripheries of the megacities - into the crushing poverty and unemployment of the Villa Miserias outside of Buenos Aires.

The second stage, becoming a consumer society is intimately linked with this migration, for the marketing so necessary for this sort of society to function, honed and refined over decades in the north, helps manufacture **alienation**, both from the land and each other. This **mirage** of security and freedom which the city provides masks a bigger problem - how is endless economic growth possible in a world with limited resources?

This, then is the big question to which the contemporary political parties and processes don't appear to have an answer to.

The end of cheap oil, the fuel of industrial society, could provide an answer itself. An opportunity may arise to remove some of the fences that surround the land, to adjust the structures of these new enclosures that have been put in place to facilitate private profit.

The threat of scarcity though, is an ideal place to try and **close things down**, for ugly nationalism to grow, and for the fences around Argentina itself to be consolidated. But with creative resistance and openness, with an internationalist outlook something else is possible - An Argentina sin alambres, and a world without borders.

So this book documents those who are closing things down, who are **creating borders** around the land, like Benetton, or putting fences in the **food webs**, like the transgenica corporations. There are the more **abstract** enclosures, those surrounding computers and technology use, and the most sophisticated, that of **cultural enclosure**, or coca colonisation.

Representing pluralities are the artists, activists, everyones who are **opening things up**. There are drawings, recipes and texts about those physically resisting oil companies, or using an open source alternative to Microsoft, **Linux**, to those building GM resistant superweeds, or homebrewing an alternative to Coca Cola. On a bigger scale there is a history of the Argentinian social movement's hunt for **autonomy** provoked by the economic crises of 2001.

This book also uses examples of struggles and interventions from the UK - the context is different but the themes are common and integrated.

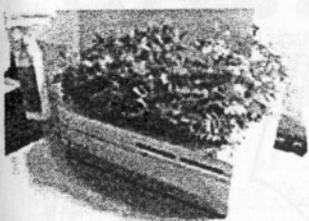
'new enclosures : open alternatives' is a sketchbook of rough ideas, a **version 0.1** of a bigger project, and coming soon - dual ingles /castallaño versions.

Email stuffit@riseup.net with additions and feedback.

FREE LIBRE OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE and RECYCLED COMPUTERS

A2:RT

A2:RT are a group from UK who use redundant technology in creative ways. By foraging for 2nd hand computers that companies had thrown away and using an operating system called **Linux**, they have broken some of the fences surrounding technology. Linux, which is free to download and install is built by volunteers over the internet, and is **open** for all people to contribute to. The exact opposite of Micro\$oft Windows, the movement is called **FLOSS (Free/Libre Open Source Software)**



Because all their resources were **free** it cost them nothing but time to create a media lab in a friend's warehouse space in Birmingham, UK, organising workshops both for fixing and repairing old computers and also for installing and using the Linux operating system to make videos, music and art. Most of their work

is political and anti capitalist, exploring **borders** between public and private space by making maps, websites and through events in public spaces like shopping centres that disrupted shopping and consumption, by climbing the famous Spaghetti Junction road network and buildings or by providing guided tours of local edible weeds and installing food gardens in derelict spaces. See www.a2rt.org for more information

Windows Loves Pirates

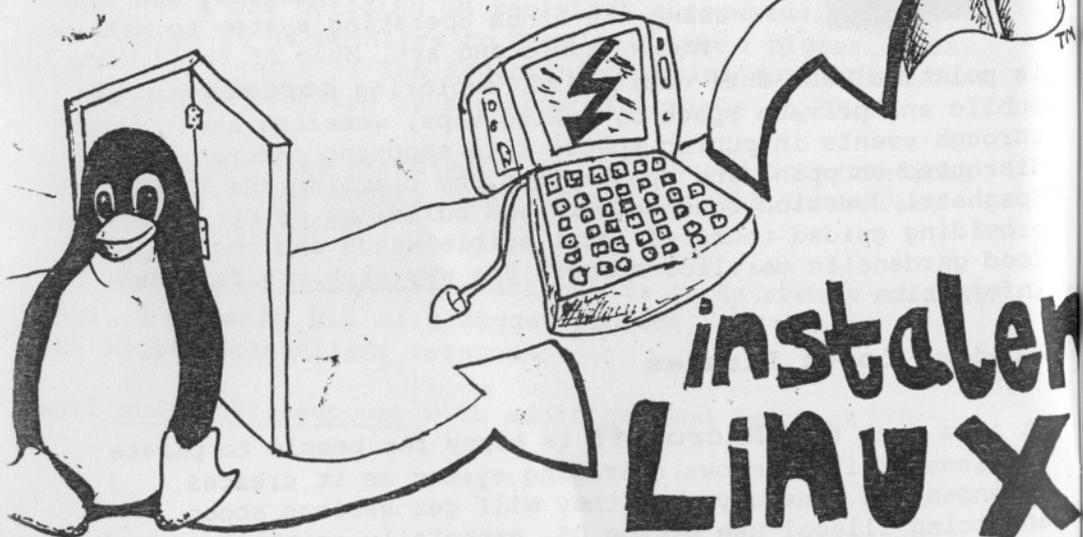
It is a fact that **Micro\$oft** is happy for people to pirate versions of its Windows operating system as it creates dependencies. One day soon they will get serious about enforcing illegal use of the OS, especially as their new system VISTA is released in 2007, with capabilities to lock users out of their **own computers**. By detrainning ourselves from the Windows OS and software, and by using a free & open alternative it is possible to upgrade our capabilities and options, giving the **boot** to an exploitative big corporation at the heart of access to information.

USING and INSTALLING Linux

The very easiest for beginners is **UBUNTU** linux. It is free to download and install from <http://www.ubuntu-es.org/> and comes (like most versions of linux) with huge amounts of free software to use for graphics, word processors, web browsers Email, IRC and chat and programming tools.

DOWNLOAD the LIVE CD. This means that you can use Ubuntu without putting anything on your hard drive to try it out.

Abren la Puerta a FLOSS
Limpien sus Windows



INTERNET CAFÉ BORDER CROSSING

Download and burn a copy of the live cd and **run/use** it at your internet café spreading the love

CROP TRASHING AND TRANSGENICA IN THE UK

In the **UK and much of Europe** the introduction of transgenica (genetically modified) crops was delayed by **direct action** and consumer boycotts. Huge amounts of the public were against it (77% in the UK) - even after the media offensive by Transgenica **crack PR propaganda** units. As the corporations wouldn't wait a reasonable amount of time to test their products in a safe and controlled environment before releasing them into the wild it became necessary to take more offensive measures in response.

Night after night small groups of activists armed with cutting tools, maps and grid references (helpfully supplied by government websites) would descend on fields throughout the UK to remove crops. Not only was the direct action of physically ripping up the crops a potent and powerful symbol, it got the goods quickly and effectively, as the corporations packed up and left.

For a history of transgenica resistance see <http://www.geocities.com/greenpeas100/>

The wolves are at the door once more in the UK, and are already established in Argentina but these actions show what a mixture of informed criticism, physical direct action and consumer boycotts can achieve. ; **SALUT!**





Natural Reality

Natural Reality SuperWeed kit 1.0

SuperWeed Kit 1.0 is lowtech DIY kit capable of producing a genetically mutant superweed, designed to attack corporate monoculture

This bag contains a mixture of naturally occurring and genetically mutated (GM) Brassica seeds (e.g. Turnip, Mustard, Oilseed Rape) If these seeds are allowed to germinate and cross pollinate, a SuperWeed will be created that will be resistant to current herbicides (e.g. Monsanto's Roundup™), thus not only threatening the profitability of conventional and GM Brassica crops, but also herbicide production and distribution.

SUPERWEED

On a different level to crop trashing, but in a similarly confrontational fashion, Heath Bunting's "SUPERWEED" project was a provocative intervention in Transgenica.

Rather than using fear of the technology of transgenica, Bunting focussed on the empowering possibilities of DIY Biotech by engineering a weed resistant to Monsanto's RoundUp Ready herbicide, and making it available for people to use and distribute.

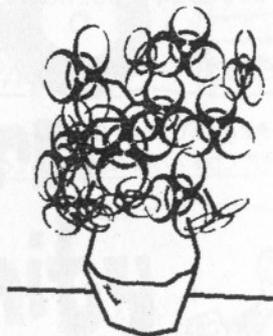
By attacking profit rather than the scientific basis alone, SUPERWEED sidesteps some of the accusations of pro transgenica interests that the public "DON'T UNDERSTAND" the technology and that opponents are **luddites** against progress or change. Instead it looks at the effects of capitalism within ecologies and the possibilities for public engagement with the techniques of transgenica

Fear alone is seldom the strongest of foundations for change, so by focussing on the power relations of corporate monoculture, and responding using creative resistance in a similar way to Critical Art Ensemble, Bunting added a important element to the Transgenica debate see <http://www.irational.org/superweed/>

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Email stuffit@riseup.net with information on the location of Transgenica crops and experimental test sites for new crops in Argentina, for a forthcoming map to be published online see www.stuffit.org



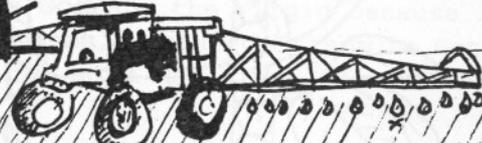
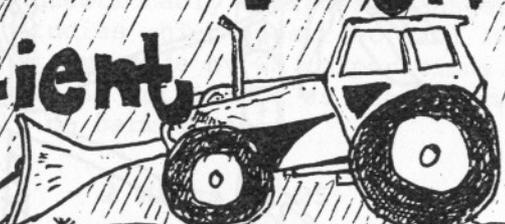
THE 7 WONDERS OF TRANSGENICA REVEALED BY ARGENBIO MEDIA PROPOGANDA UNIT

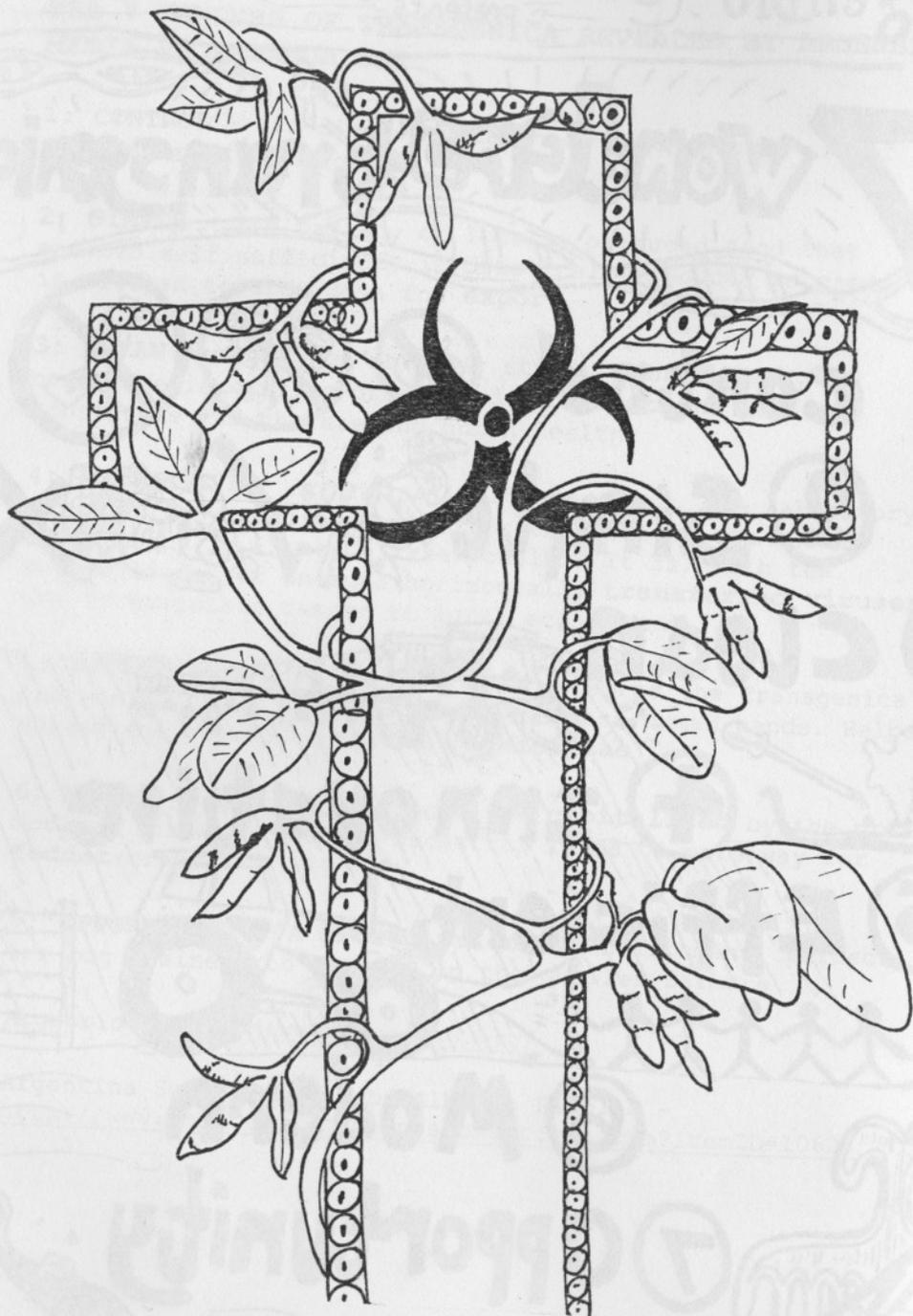
- 1: CONTROL** - Bio diversity is threatened through use of **monoculture** techniques
- 2: SIMPLE** - The variety of locally produced food that enabled self sufficiency is drastically reduced as production is altered towards Soja for **export**
- 3: CLEAN** Application of super strong Roundup Ready TM herbicide is causing drastic **simplifications** in local ecosystems and threatening human health
- 4: INNOVATIVE** - Argentina is the test bed, the laboratory for cutting edge Transgenica for the rest of the world. Adventurous it is not - irresponsible it is, with the possibilities of unusual horizontally **transferred viruses** and irreversible damage to local ecosystems
- 5: EFFICIENT** - Less workers are needed as the Transgenica process involves more machinery and less human hands. Helps spread the growth of the **Villa Miserias**
- 6: MODERN** - Indigenous groups are **capitalised** by the profit motive, thrown off their ancestral lands to make way for **fodder** crops
- 7: OPPORTUNITY** - A **growth friendly** environment, perfect for big business to swallow up the smaller farmers

Argenbio - <http://www.argenbio.org/>

Argentina Soya-fication by Alberto Lapolla -
<http://www.zmag.org/content/showarticle.cfm?ItemID=10628>

The 7 wonders of transgenic

- ① control   
- ② Simple  
- ③ Clean 
- ④ Innovative 
- ⑤ Efficient  
- ⑥ Modern 
- ⑦ Opportunity 



¿SOJA CATHOLICA?

The poor of Argentina are being used as a testing ground for Transgenica Soja. Led by Soya Solidarity, a slick front group whose main sponsors include Direct Sowing Producer's Association (AAPRESID), who groups together the large GM producers, Cargill, Chevron Texaco, the Argentine Exporters Association, the Grain Storage Association, the Vegetable Oil Chamber, the Rosario Agricultural Stock Exchange, and the powerful Sociedad Rural, which represents Argentina's large landowners.

The campaign has also been supported by media personalities such as the charismatic priest and founder of the Happy Children program, Padre Julio Grassi, also currently on trial for child abuse and recipient of generous government handouts during the rule of the corrupt ex-President Carlos Menem.

"Many times I prayed to **God** and the Virgin because I couldn't **feed the children**," declared Grassi in Gente magazine. "That's why the **soya** donations from APPRESID were a blessing from God."

The Catholic church with its extensive social support network of soup kitchens and assistance to those in poverty has appeared to have unquestionably embraced transgenica - even though there are studies which appear to call in to doubt the nutritional claims made by GM corporations. Worse still, not only is it not as nutritious as other forms of protein it may actually be harmful too.

'All Flesh Is Grass..' - 2 Kings 19:25

For more on this see:

<http://www.grain.org/seedling/?id=302>

<http://www.twinside.org.sg/title/service78.htm>



TreeGen



Notice: Patent 2308899

[57] ABSTRACT

It is hereby declared that TREEGEN has been granted full ownership rights for *Lamium purpureum*, commonly known as Red Dead Nettle. This decision means that all parts of this plant are now protected by UK law against both piracy and misuse.

Piracy in this context refers to the removal of seeds, flowers and roots with the intention to duplicate the organism, either in a private or a public context. Misuse prohibits taking flowers or leaves from the plant to consume for pleasure or medicinal purposes. As food is not free a license to use this plant is available from the website:
<http://www.treegen.co.uk>

[56] References Cited U.K. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- 4,835,528 11/2001 Finchbaugh .
- 4,835,528 5/2003 Hirota et al. 345/433
- 5,581,665 5/2003 Chen et al. 345/437
- 5,588,023 12/2003 Suigitaru et al. 345/423



UK006046746A

[11] Patent Number:

[45] Date of Patent:

33 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet



Fig 1, Red Dead Nettle

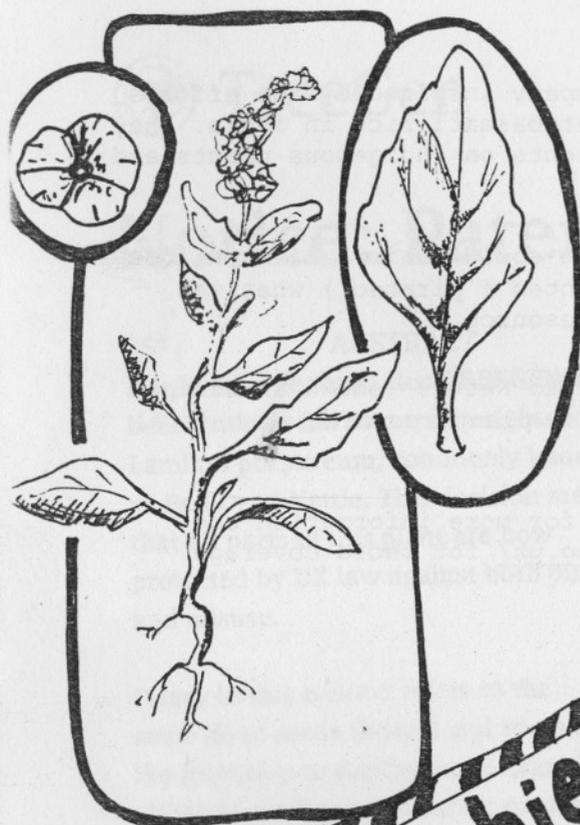
TREEGEN

Treegen is a biotechnology company inspired by the efforts of Monsanto who tried to patent basmati rice in India. They have taken out a number of patents on indigenous plants and tree species in the UK.

This meant that the corporation could claim a **license fee** from people who used and replanted ('pirated') what was previously a free and common resource.

Affected species include Red Dead Nettle (shown in example patent), Oak, **Fat Hen** and other plants popular with feral food enthusiasts.

See website www.treegen.co.uk for more information and <http://www.interludemagazine.co.uk/> for media coverage



Chenopodium album L.

Fam. Chenopodiaceae

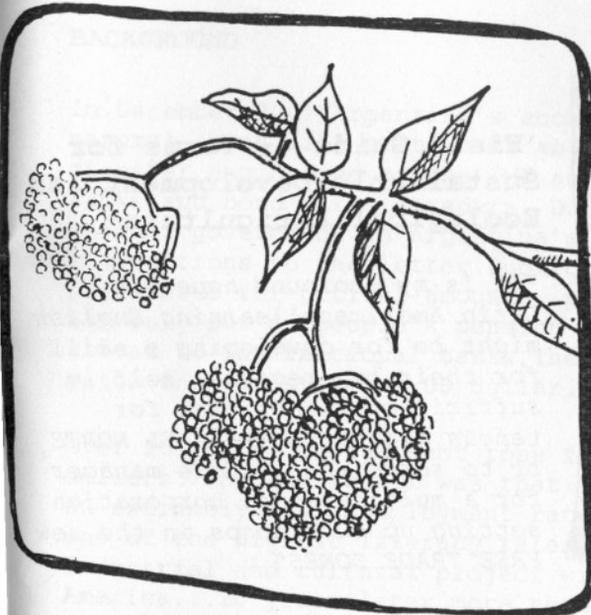
"Quínoa blanca,
quingua, quinguilla, yuyo
blanco" (Arg)

"Fat Hen" (UK)

**LA MALA hierba más
conocida en Argentina!**

An annual herb
- weed that grows from
summer, is as high as 20cm to 2 metres high. Grows in
minerals as spinach and is one of the tastiest wild
foods. Harvest leaves, eat raw in salads or steam for few
minutes.





**COMIDA
GRATIS**



Elderflower Cordial

Make a cool refreshing drink for the summer from **wild food**.
It's cheap and good for hayfever too.

Ingredients:

- 20 or more elderflower heads (pick away from **pollution** and **traffic**)
- 2 ½ pints of water, 75g citric acid, 2 lemons and 1 orange, 3 lbs of granulated sugar

HOWTO

Put into water lemon and orange zest and elderflowers. Bring to boil and stir. Simmer for 10 minutes. Add the citric acid, sugar, lemon and orange juice. Stir until sugar has melted. Cover and leave for 24 hours. Sieve into a bottle using muslin and funnel

Makes 3 - 4 pints - freeze or keep in fridge



Book Review



'Field Guide - Terms for Sustainable Development and Ecological Agriculture'

"It is my profound hope that Latin Americans learning English might be for developing a skill for their own regional self sufficiency rather than for tenuous migrant work in EL NORTE or to serve as a middle manager for a multinational corporation setting up sweatshops in the new FREE TRADE ZONES"

The 'Glosario de Campo' guide, written by Reed Ellis Aubin, is a small and beautiful book that attempts to help the people of the North and South to communicate better about their lands in both English and Castellano. It is aimed mainly at those interested in communicating with people working in the rural economy and vice versa with one of the primary aims being to increase the ability to resist both the capitalist drive to the megaslums in the South and the relentless growth and consumption in the North.

Well designed, it contains a helpful **A-Z list** of agricultural, trade and people related words, alongside more specific lists including **plant names** (domestic, imported, cultivated and wild), and tools & techniques involving soil, water, construction, permaculture and much more.

For anyone with an interest in sustainable living and social justice this guide (which comes in a weather and tierra proof plastic zip lock bag) is worth getting hold off. See <http://www.understory.org/> for more information.

AUTONOMY AND HORIZONTALISM IN ARGENTINA

BACKGROUND

In December 2001 Argentina's economy collapsed. It wasn't a natural event like a storm or an earthquake - it was a disaster engineered by the IMF and associated economists, banks and bond market traders. During the 90s, the most corrupt government in Argentina's history followed IMF instructions to the letter. Publically owned companies were privatised for pitiful amounts, public spending was cut, not only cut as people's pension contributions were sent abroad to international banks. The currency was fixed to match the far stronger US dollar.

Over 10 years foreign debt rose from 50 to 150 billion dollars. The end result was that a country that in 1984 had an extremely low unemployment rate (below 6 percent), with one of the highest literacy rates in the world, and an industrial and cultural project with no precedents in Latin America...20 years later more than half of its population were below the poverty line.

So things reached crisis point, with the IMF refusing to budge, the bankers **circling hungrily** and a desperate population brought to its knees. The peso was devalued to a third of its former value meaning that those argentinians lucky enough to have savings saw their value drop by a third. This combined with a limit on cash withdrawals finally released the pressure valve of popular dissent as people took to the streets.



"¡QUE SE VAYAN TODOS!" - "OUT WITH THEM ALL!"

What differentiated this protest from many others in Latin America was that the **cacerolazos**, middle class people banging on pots and pans as a protest against the government, had joined with the **piqueteros**, unemployed

activists all of them chanting "Out with them all!"



This protest that crossed class lines occurred against a backdrop of widespread looting of supermarkets by people in suits. The popular uprising forced De la Rúa to resign the Presidency on December 20, after 29 young people had been killed by the government in a crackdown "the likes of which had never before been ordered by an elected Argentine government." (Andrés Gaudin)

From this spontaneous demonstration sprung a whole **laboratory of social experimentation** of protest, alternative economies and workplace organising.

A neighbour chalked on a wall "Lets meet here Thursday night"

"Who wrote this? No one knows. In the first meeting there were maybe 15 people, and by the next week it was triple that. Why did it increase in this way? It wasn't an ideological decision, or an intellectual, academic, or political one. It's like asking why people went out to *cacerolas*. It was the most spontaneous and elemental thing, to go out in the street and meet others on the corner."

Pablo, Asamblea Colegiales (a neighborhood assembly)

From the chaos emerged a network of **neighbourhood assemblies**, over 80 in Buenos Aires alone. They included people from different classes and ideological positions, who made decisions using the principles of direct democracy, and who organised in a non-hierarchical way - a radical change from the previous party based political processes. They met to discuss and decide on direct actions, to initiate projects to meet their needs, and to collaborate with other assemblies, the **interbarrios** - using a rotating organising system clearly influenced by the zapatistas method of doing politics - to ensure that diversity is maintained and the chances of corruption minimised.



Project-based groups soon began to form in the neighborhood assemblies. Some groups planted gardens, others figured out how to buy things directly from producers, another created a health project, another a group of political reflection and study, and still another planned cultural activities. These smaller groups depended not on an agenda, but on the initiatives, capacities, and skills of the individuals who decided to be involved.

The Piqueteros and MTD movement

The **piqueteros** of Argentina are organizations of unemployed workers, affected by the IMF-induced privatisations, who organize to fight for their rights and for social change, using direct action especially 'piquetes', or road blockades.



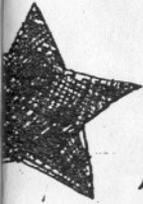
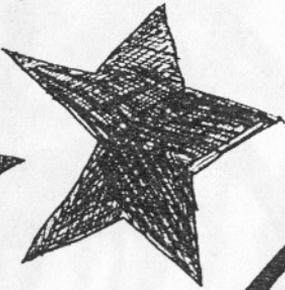
Previously many of the unemployed were organised by political parties or by unions, but a desire for more autonomy led to the creation of the MTD's (Movimiento Trabajadores Desocupados / Movement of Unemployed workers). Some MTD's demanded food, work or unemployment benefits from the government, but others whilst supporting these demands, took things further in an attempt to break any form of connection with the state, with what was **before**. They began to question all power relationships:

"We take ourselves out of the system, the market, work, competition, and all these things that form part of the system. And we as the unemployed by not having work are excluded from a number of things, including even social relations. Those that have work are different to us. We have nothing. We had to start to create a new sociability. And this is what is the hardest. We say that the struggle is not so much with the government, or with the police, or in the road blocks, or in the demonstrations. The most difficult struggle is within ourselves. What we need to change are our values." MTD Allen

Occupied Factories - Doing it Ourselves Together (DIOT)

This changing of internal and external values is manifested in the Recuperated Enterprises Movement. In 2001, owners closed or abandoned businesses, ceased production and the

EL fin del Petróleo Barato Llegará



Coca Colonization



menos agua
mas Coko

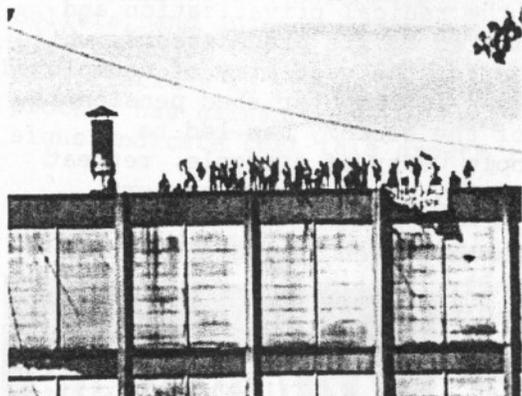
TAN

¿No pánico?



www.stuffib.org/pezak

← payment of wages. This bankruptcy of ideas was challenged, as workers re-occupied the factories themselves, **without bosses**. As of 2006, some 180 recuperated enterprises (including print production, health clinics, hotels and ceramics production) are up and running, providing jobs for more than 10,000 Argentine workers. Rather than just producing the same old outputs, Argentina's recuperated factory movement has created jobs, formed a broad network of mutual support among the worker-run workplaces and generated community projects - providing space for political and social expression - a **cultural currency**.



In the case of Zanon (the largest recuperated factory in Argentina), the hiring of workers and organization of production is based on the ideals of horizontal relations, direct democracy, and autonomy. Everything is decided in an assembly, there is no hierarchy of personnel or administration. Each area, including the production lines, sales, production planning, press, etc, forms a commission. Each commission votes on a coordinator. The coordinator of the sector informs on issues, news, and conflicts within his or her sector to a general assembly of coordinators. The coordinator then reports back to his or her commission news from other sectors. The workers hold weekly assemblies per shift. The factory also holds a monthly general assembly, during which production is halted.

As these factories began to prove that it was possible to function effectively without bosses, they started to be targeted both in the courts over their legal status and violently by the police.

After three years under worker control, in 2003, the government of Neuquén re-launched an attack against Zanon,

in the same month where the workers reached a record high in production, sales and quality.

So where now?

As with all experiments there have been times of success, failure and a mixture of both.

The moderate conservative Kirchner regime has been attempting to **close things down** by increasing its repression of the new social movements. It has neutralized and divided the piquetero movement, and forced through the legal system thousands of people, many without formal charges, and many awaiting trial, some for years. During this time he has retained the radical privatization and free trade policies implemented by his predecessors, while providing subsistence doles for the vast army of unemployed and providing small increases for impoverished pensioners. The relative improvement of the economy has led to fragmentation, as some people weary of struggle, retreat back into the apparent security of the waged economy.

The recuperated enterprises have been facing challenges both in the courts as to their legal status, as former owners try to claim back now profitable businesses, and by violent attacks by right wing interests and the police.

The neighbourhood assemblies have been disrupted and in some cases co-opted as party political front groups infiltrated and attempted to gain control. The government adopted a 'carrot and stick' approach of violent evictions combined with offers of buildings, services and goods.

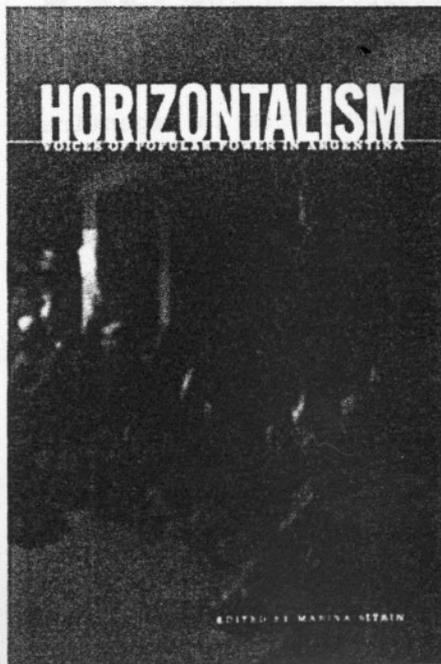
But this is only one aspect, one example of the many currents flowing throughout these movements. One current, **representing openness**, is that disparate groups have been communicating, connecting and building on shared interests, both internal and externally:

"Argentine movements, for example, have made significant connections to the MST in Brazil, trading experiences and strategies for land take-overs, forms of traditional medicine, and tools for democratic practices. The Zapatistas have also consistently engaged in exchanges,

visiting and being visited by people in other movements. Since the 2001 rebellion, a number of people from various unemployed workers movements have been invited by the Zapatistas to spend time in the autonomous communities in Chiapas, exchanging ideas and experiences. Also, participants in the then Frente Zapatista spent time with movements in Argentina discussing a range of things, including how the election of a so-called progressive president effects the movements.

During the past three years in Buenos Aires, autonomous movements have held an annual gathering called *Enero Autonomo* (Autonomous January). Groups came from all over Latin America and Europe—including *Mujeres Creando* from Bolivia, and autonomous groups from Brazil. Participants also included various collectives and community-based organizations in Europe and the United States. This linking process has gained momentum over the past few years and all signs indicate that this growth is accelerating.

The relationships of the movement of movements in Argentina, is one piece of a much larger global phenomenon of networking and horizontal relationships" Marina Sitrin



Horizontalism: Voices of Popular Power in Argentina

Horizontalism: Voices of Popular Power in Argentina, a new book by Marina Sitrin, is an oral history of the autonomous social movements in Argentina since the popular rebellion in 2001.

What follows is an excerpt from an interview with Marina Sitrin published by ZNET at: <http://www.zmag.org/content/s/howarticle.cfm?ItemID=11737>

"This book reflects the voices of many dozens of people who are recreating

their lives and communities using horizontal forms of social organization. These movements range from occupied and recuperated factories, arts and independent media collectives, indigenous communities, neighborhood assemblies, feminist and queer groups and unemployed workers movements.

It explores what people are doing, what motivates them, how they are relating to one another, and how they have changed individually and collectively in the creation process. It is not so much a movement of new actions, but rather a movement of new social actors, new subjects, and new protagonists. So many in the movements speak of how they have changed as individuals and how their communities have changed, based on these new ways of organizing and creating.

The book shows, in people's own voices, that we can change our worlds, we are changing our worlds, and we can do so with love, trust, real democracy, horizontalism in this case, and autonomy.

One of the things that is so unique and inspiring about the movements is not just what they are doing and how they are doing it, but the tremendous diversity of those participating in the horizontal movements, spanning social and economic classes and geographic locations."

To read more about autonomy and horizontalism in argentina see:

<http://www.zmag.org> and <http://www.upsidedownworld.org>

WE LOVE COCA COLONISATION OR HOW A SUGARY DRINK CHANGES CULTURE ALL OVER THE WORLD

INGREDIENTS:

- Encourage parents that **their babies** and children need drink Coca Cola
- Become synonamous with key cultural events like **Christmas**. Cover the symbols of these events in Coke merchandise
- Market incessantly and **everywhere**..billboards, TV, on shacks, government building and mountains
- Represent '**community**' 'success' 'freedom' 'family'
- Become one of this family, encouraging both **soft feelings** and loyalty
- 40 - 70 cents for a 1 serving bottle , with and average wage in Latin America of \$5 per day
- Dissolve teeth in regions where dental care is **less real than coke**
- Employ and subsidise paramilitaries to keep unions in line
- Develop new non traditional channels in areas of high pedestrian traffic to stimulate impulse consumption
- Use metallic posters, flags and neon signs to call attention to products and instill a perception of value in the consumer
- Transform small traditional outlets into 'red' outlets by equipping **clients** with tailored merchandise. Materials and painting in Coca Cola colours
- Buy and enclose vast tracts of land, evict the previous residents, call them eco-parks, and thereby secure cheap and plentiful access to water for agribusiness to grow sugar cane for your product, duplicating the **colonial processes** of the past

ENJOY

Coca-Colaization

less water

more™ coke





Diy COLA



CUBE COLA - STANDING ON THE HANDS OF GIANTS

¿Sick of supporting a multinational corporation that exploits humans and the land, but still desire the hit of Coca Cola? Kayle Brandon and Kate Rich developed a recipe, originally sourced from the internet, for over 3 years to create 'CUBE COLA' a open source syrup designed to be mixed with local water without compromising on either ethics or taste.

More at <http://sparror.cubecinema.com/cube/cola/>



ALL INGREDIENTS



orange oil

lime oil
lemon oil
cassia oil
nutmeg oil
coriander oil
lavender oil
gum arabic
caramel colour
citric acid
caffeine
vodka (trace)
water

STEP 1: 7x Formula

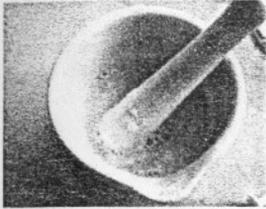
Using food-grade essential oils only, assemble

3.75 ml orange oil
3.50 ml lime oil
1.00 ml lemon oil
0.50 ml cassia oil (*nb. reduce cassia content for next production*)
0.75 ml nutmeg oil
0.25 ml coriander oil (6 drops)
0.25 ml lavender oil (6 drops)
0.25 ml neroli oil (*optional/removed due to high expense of neroli*)

Using a measuring syringe, measure out the oils into a glass or ceramic container.

Keep it covered to avoid volatile oil fumes escape.

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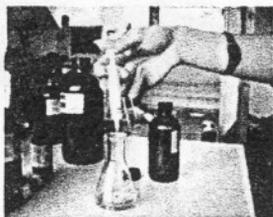
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Using a measuring syringe, measure out the oils into a glass or ceramic container.

Keep it covered to avoid volatile oil fumes escape.



Then dissolve

10.0 g instant gum arabic (equivalent to 22ml) in
20 ml water (low calcium / low magnesium, volvic is good)
with

1 drop vodka (we are using zubrowka).

(be aware that total quantity of vodka will be 0.0007 ml
per litre of cube-cola)

Place the gum/water/vodka mix in a high-sided beaker,
stainless steel or glass are best.

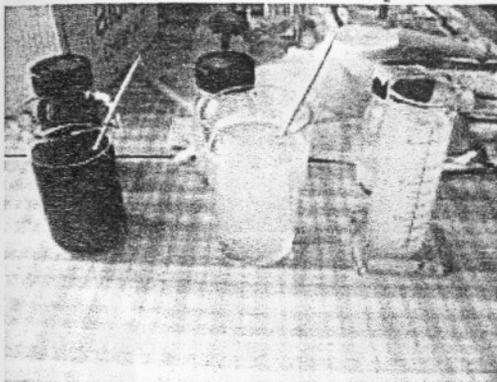
Using a high-power hammer drill with kitchen whisk
attachment, whisk the gum mixture at
high speed while your colleague droppers the oils mix in
steadily with the measuring syringe.

Continue to whisk at high speed for several minutes, or
until oils and water emulsify.



The resulting mixture will be cloudy. Test for
emulsification by adding a few drops of the mixture

to 1 glass water. No oils should be visible on the surface. You now have a successful flavour emulsion, which should hold for a period of 3-6 months.



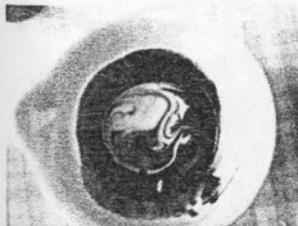
If emulsification is successful, continue to:

STEP 2: Concentrate

For easy mailout and long-distance production into cola syrup with the local addition of sugar and water. First, prepare 2 Compositions.

COMPOSITION A

Combine
30 ml double strength caramel colouring (DD Williamson Caramel 050) with
10 ml water and
10 ml 7x flavour emulsion (oils/gum/water mix)



Mix the caramel with the water. While stirring add the flavour emulsion.

COMPOSITION B

3 tsp (10 ml) citric acid
0.75 tsp (2.75 ml) caffeine
5-10ml water

Mix the citric acid with the water then seive in the caffeine.

Mix thoroughly in mortar and pestle till caffeine granules are not evident. The mixture may behave erratically, turning either white or clear for no apparant reason. If it goes white, add more water. Pass through muslin or jelly bag to remove any anomalies.



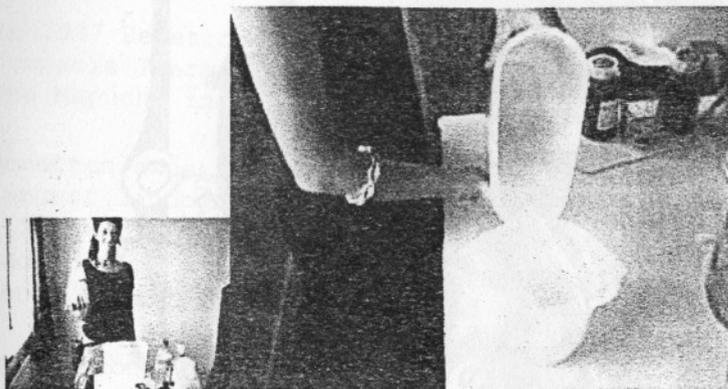
Combine Compositions A+B and you have approximately 50ml Cube-Cola concentrate, for later restitution into cola syrup.



Step 3: The Cola Syrup

2L water (any)
1.5KG silver spoon sugar
1x Cube-Cola concentrate

Make a sugar syrup (ie. mix in a cooking pot on low heat to speed dissolve) with 1.5L of the water and all of the sugar. Filter if unsure.



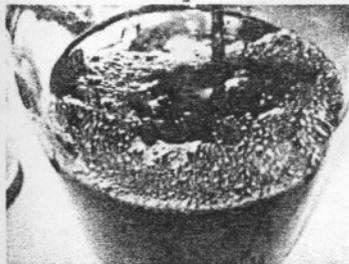
Mix the cola concentrate into the remaining 500 ml water. Then add the sugar syrup, which can be used to rinse out the concentrate jar to ensure full inclusion. You now have approximately 3L Cube-Cola syrup.

or an eventual 18L Cube-Cola.

Step 4: The Cola

As required, make up your cola as a 5:1 mix, 5 parts fizzy water to 1 part cola syrup.

We currently use 350 ml syrup in a 2L



UNITED COLORS
OF BENETTON

TRIBES INCORRECTO



ALL HUMAN BEINGS
ARE NOW FREE AND EQUAL
IN DIGNITY AND RIGHTS
(Art. 1)



BENETTON AND THE CASE OF THE MISSING HUMAN RIGHTS

In 1997 Benetton bought Patagonian land from British owned Compania Tierras del Sur Argentina S.A for USD \$50 million. The Mapuche indigenous people lived here for 13,000 years.

Benetton owns 900,000 hectares of Patagonia, and is the largest landowner in Argentina. They enclosed this land in a fence, in a **border**. 88 year old Mapuche Doña Calendaria had to jump one of these borders in **Leleque** to collect water from the only streams and rivers in the region.

In November 2005 it set aside 75 square kilometers (30 square miles) for the Mapuches - who number about 40,000 - as a '**gesture**'. But the Mapuches recognised this as possible '**greenwash**' and claim the government stole the land from them in the 19th century.

'We don't want or need Benetton's donation,' Rosa Chiquichano, a lawmaker in Patagonia's Chubut province and a descendant of the indigenous Mapuche and Tehuelche population, said in an interview from Esquel, Argentina. 'We want a restitution of our land. We want reparation for the land that was taken away from us.'

Funnily enough, Benetton produced propaganda for the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights using of statement "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights (dec 1)"

For latest information of the enclosing of Patagonia see

<http://www.mapuche-nation.org>

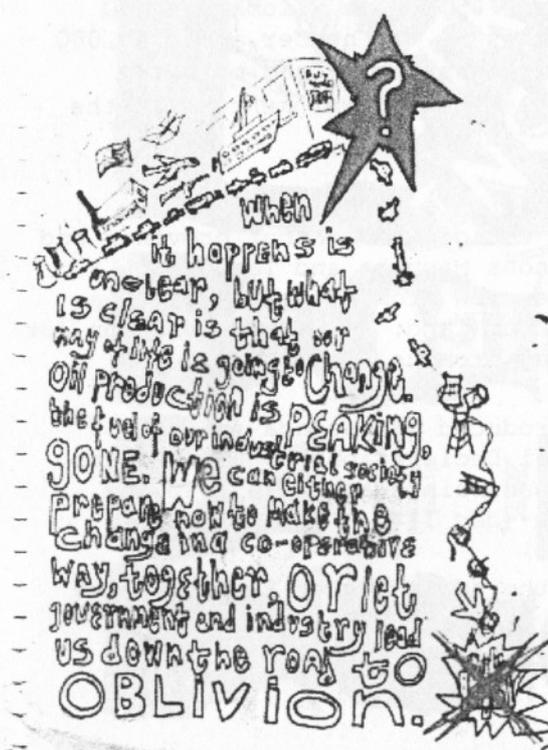


POPEX

Peak Oil People investigating Economies & Xchange

WHAT IS PEAK OIL?

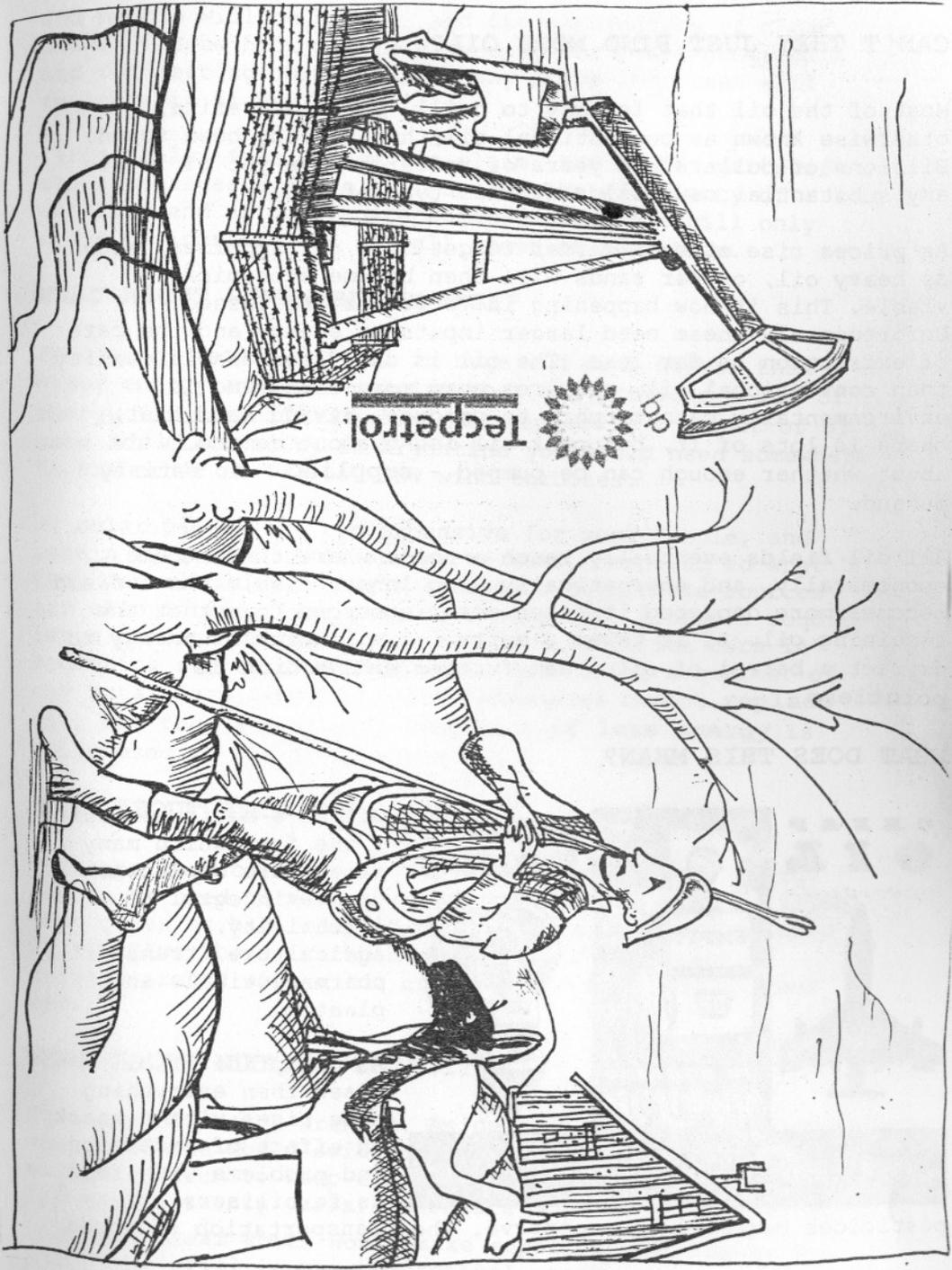
'Peak Oil' refers to the end of **cheap oil** not oil running out. Oil wells follow a production curve, where the rate of extraction rises sharply, peaks at the halfway point, then tails off. American geophysicist M.King Hubbert, who worked in the 50's as a consultant for Shell oil, created the methodology to work this out and applied it to to all of USA's oil wells.



This resulted in **Hubbert's Peak** a graph which predicted that the USA's oil supply would peak in 1970. He presented these findings at an oil baron's meeting in 1956 and was ridiculed. But it turns out he was right.

Other since have applied the same methodology to **total world oil** supplies, and have predicted a peak between 2005 and 2015. oil production will have reached its highest level globally, and then start to decline. At this point oil cannot be pumped out of the

ground any faster, having reached its maximum flow rate. World demand will be greater than supply and the **price will rise.**



Tecpetrol



da

CAN'T THEY JUST FIND MORE OIL?

Most of the oil that is easy to drill, pump and refine, otherwise known as conventional oil, has already been found. Billions of dollars and years of research have yet to locate any substantial new fields of this type of oil.

As prices rise other - harder to get to - oil supplies, known as heavy oil, or tar sands will then become economically viable. This is now happening in Venezuela and Canada. Unfortunately these need larger inputs of energy and the rate of extraction is far less. The oil is of a less usable quality than conventional oil, requires even more cash, and is environmentally catastrophic to produce. Having said that, there is lots of it, but peak oil isn't about demand, it's about whether enough can be pumped - **supplied** - to satisfy demand.

All oil fields eventually reach a point where they become economically, and energetically, no longer viable. As a field becomes more depleted it takes more resources to get at the remaining oil. If it takes a barrel of oil worth of energy to extract a barrel of oil, then further **extraction is pointless.**

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



Oil is a basic commodity - one from which many others are dependent upon - integral to electricity, agriculture, transport, pharmaceuticals and plastic.

As the price of oil rises then everything else rises with a knock on effect of recession and problems with food as fertilisers /

pesticides become more expensive. The transportation of goods

www.stuffit.org/peak

and people will be harder, and the manufacture of cheap drugs will be hit. Oil is also used for power generation and for heating our homes, so any price increases will resonate in higher bills.

Ironically if as economists claim, the higher price of oil encourages a drive to increase the efficiency of drilling and extraction techniques then this will only serve to increase the overall speed of depletion.

WHAT ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY?

The energy density of oil is huge and much higher than other energy sources, meaning that oil provides a **lot** of energy for very **little** cost. To replace the amount of oil used for electricity in Argentina you would need somewhere in the order of 135,500 3MW wind turbines.

Pv solar panels are too expensive for most people, and take a large amount of energy to make, compared to what they can output over their lifespan. Both these sources are also intermittent providers of power. Biofuels require large amounts of land. To make the 5.4 million cars in Argentina run on biodiesel would mean using a quarter of the total farm land. In short renewables cannot **replace** oil, but they are vitally important **if less energy** is being used in the first place

WHAT ABOUT HYDROGEN CARS?

Hydrogen is a carrier of fuel not a fuel itself. Energy has to be used to make hydrogen in order to produce a fuel that gives us back only 40-80% of the energy we invested in it. Plus there is the health and safety aspect of driving around with a lot of explosive material in your car.

WHAT ABOUT NUCLEAR ENERGY?

There's not enough uranium. Aside from storing radioactive waste, if the world switched to nuclear there is only enough uranium to keep fission reactors burning for fifteen to twenty years. There are more advanced ways of using nuclear which would make supplies last longer but they are still in the theoretical stage.

SO WE ARE FUCKED THEN;

As was mentioned in the introduction, Peak Oil may provide an ideal opportunity to **restructure** society in a more sustainable way - or may be a perfect opportunity for nationalist politics to grow, and for the **classes with power** to consolidate and secure their own futures, whilst the rest of us fight over crumbs.

Briefly though here are some factors that may be relevant.

- Argentina is industrialising rapidly and using much of its oil to build a consumer society - a tragedy when these resources could be used to secure a renewable future
- There are many social support networks in place, a '**repair culture**', informal exchange economies and small scale organic local food production, some of which were in place decades ago, and some which grew since the experiences of the 2001 crash. Compared to deskilled 'throwaway' culture, this is a very sophisticated post oil society
- The pressure for profit and exports. Capitalism thrives on 'scarcity'. During the potatoe famine in Ireland from 1845 - 1849 , famine didn't mean there was a **lack of food**. (Much available food was exported for private profit as the people starved.) Whether the petroleum that is left in Argentina is exported or used for its people is to be seen.
- Distance - Argentina is big, and cars are often a necessity, especially in rural areas. Fortunately public collective transport is widespread. There are also railway skeletons that could be revived and extended, and the use of vegetable oil or biofuels to power diesel vehicles could be explored if used in a sustainable way.
- Wood is often used for space and water heating, an advantage over countries that use **electricity***. Decentralised combined heat and power generators, with sustainable land management - in other words 'stinting' as it used to be known - would mean that the forests would also survive.

In short pluralities versus monocultures are the dynamic forces at work in the transition post-peak, **the enclosures versus the commons.**

For an in-depth look at these issues, background information, peak oil alternatives and much more read **'Peak Oil: A User's Guide'** by POPEX (www.stuffit.org/peak) and **'Energy Beyond Oil'** by Paul Mobbs (www.fraw.org)



* **electricity** - a process where gas or oil is burnt, to **heat** water, to make steam, to turn a turbine to generate electricity, which travels down wires to people's houses, where it is used to **heat** water or to **heat** a room.

PERU: PETROLEO: PLUSPETROL

On October 23rd, 14 days after blockading and halting half of Peru's oil production, the **indigenous Achuar** community, who live in the northern Peruvian Amazon, secured agreements from **Argentina's PlusPetrol** to halt the dumping of nearly 1 million barrels of toxic by product from oil production per day, directly into the rivers and streams.

Soon after Occidental Petroleum (Oxy) announced a decision to withdraw from the Peruvian Amazon.: For more on this see <http://www.amazonwatch.org>

The written agreement PlusPetrol signed included:

- Re-inject 100 percent of the formation waters back into the ground within 12 months in concession "1AB." Pluspetrol had originally committed to re-injecting 15 percent by 2010;
- Construction of a new hospital and a multi-million dollar health budget for the Achuar;
- Five percent of all oil royalties to the Peruvian state of Loreto to be dedicated to Achuar community development, including food production, health and education;
- One year of emergency food supply for affected communities given the river fish and game are highly contaminated; and
- The acknowledgement of a unilateral declaration by the Achuar that they oppose new oil concessions in their territories and request cancellation of contracts for blocks 104 and 106.

If a community can dictate the methods of production and receive a share of profits alongside other benefits like public services then this is a step towards petroleum being viewed as a 'common', like water, rather than a privatised commodity. See '**The Petroleum Commons**' (<http://www.metamute.org/en/node/8353>) by George Caffentzis on how the Ijaw community in Nigeria and others are attempting to redefine oil in this way.

PERU: PEIRPOTED

OCT 06

The Anceuar community successfully blockaded oil refineries in the Amazon, halting production until their demands in full, were met.



BOOKS AND LINKS THAT ARE USEFUL TO READ

Technology and DIY Culture

MUTE - Net culture, open source, art and politics:

<http://www.metamute.com/> -

Ubuntu Linux - <http://www.ubuntu.org/>

A2:RT - Collective making art about borders using open source technology: <http://www.a2rt.org/>

Free Range Activism Network - environmental / open source dudes: <http://www.fraw.org.uk/index.shtml>

Irrational - information dispersal with art / activism
www.irrational.org

Transgenica

<http://www.grain.org/> - **pro people** agriculture research gr

<http://biotech.indymedia.org/> - **indymedia**, but about biotec

Land rights

Mapuche nation - activist site and info: <http://www.mapuchenation.org/>

<http://www.amazonwatch.org/> - **indigenous rights** group

Peak Oil and the Petroleum Commons

<http://www.energybulletin.net/> - **excellent** broad resource

<http://www.fuellingthefuture.org/index.htm> - **irish** site with lots of audio to **download**

<http://www.fraw.org.uk/ebo/index.shtml> - Energy Beyond Oil s

Autonomy in Argentina

http://www.zmag.org/lam/argentina_watch.cfm - massive site

<http://www.upsidedownworld.org> - covers all of South America

Books

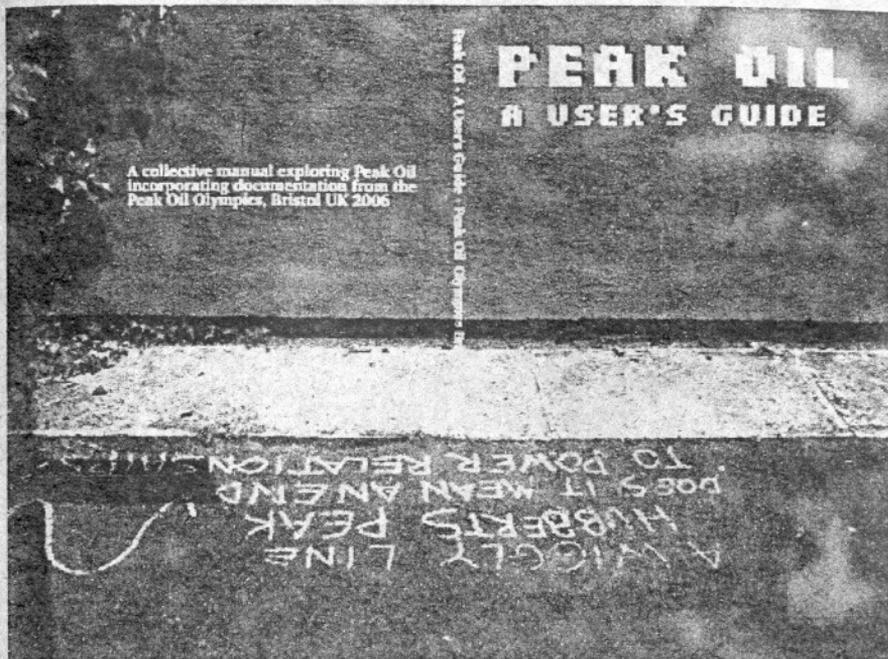
Mute produces a book regularly, it's good, see link above.

Energy Beyond Oil by Paul Mobbs

Peak Oil: A User's Guide by Popex

Energy, Class Struggle, and War, 1998-2004 - George Caffentzis

Horizontalism: Voices of Popular Power in Argentina - Marina Sitrin



Also available to buy online: Peak Oil: A user's Guide

<http://www.metamote.org/en/Peak-Oil-0955066A-68>

What will happen I think is that we will hit the buffers, there will be a crunch of some sort, and at that point

people will have ~~x~~

to make their minds up. If by that point we have a network of people throughout the country who are doing **less**, who are doing small scale community based food systems, energy systems, commodity systems, informal economies - a bit like after the Argentine economy crashed, all the money and the rich people left, and within 4-6 months you had a whole informal economy that sort of organically arose among everybody else. They just found ways to solve the problems.