



# The Banning of Moss Balls

Herds of moss balls mysteriously roam the North Pole together. In 2021 they got banned.

A scientist hopes that "*future generations will one day sort out these great mysteries*".

*Printed on August 6, 2024*



**GMO Debate**

A critical perspective on eugenics

# Table of Contents (TOC)

## 1. Foreword

□ Banned for questioning sensitive topics

## 2. Moss Balls Banned

□ Ukrainian molusk

2.1. \* Herds of moss balls mysteriously roam the North Pole together

2.2. □ Banning of Moss Balls on Youtube

## 3. Moss Balls as Pet

3.1. □ "Moss balls need good care"

## 4. Moss Balls Moving Around Rocks

## 5. Plant Intelligence

□□□ Philosopher Michael Marder: "plants are sentient"

## CHAPTER 1.

# The Banning of Moss Balls

**A**s a philosopher of morality and a decades-long defender of free will, I founded [GModebate.org](https://www.gmodebate.org) in February 2022 to defend animals and plants against eugenics.



Over the years, I have been banned often for questioning sensitive topics, such as the Big Bang theory or [plant sentience](#).

As if it was some kind of *'thing'*, these banishments also reached my business and private life, with an example being a [WordPress plugin ban](#) mystery.

In February 2021 I posted [a message](#) on Houzz.com to request attention for the idea that plants are living creatures for which the concept 'happiness' may be applicable. The incentive for the post had been a news item about the discovery of moss balls that were moving in herds across the ice on the North Pole.

Later that month, a pet shop in Washington state sounded the alarm on a small Ukrainian mollusk found on a moss ball. Shortly after, the banning of moss balls went viral on YouTube.

Likely a coincidence, despite the trail of 'banishments' that I was enduring, such as a mysterious [WordPress plugin ban](#), or a [Space.com ban](#), but still an opportunity to provide attention for moss balls and plant intelligence.



## Cute Moss Balls roam the North Pole ice together

plant | 10 months ago | last modified: 10 months ago

This topic is intended to provide a perspective on plants and a hint that it may be applicable to discover what it takes to make plants happy when using them as house decoration.

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## Herds of moss balls mysteriously roam the North Pole together

Glacier mice (moss balls) live on the ice and move by rolling. Scientists recently discovered that they move in herds across the ice.

The moss is not propelled by a slope, the wind or the sun, but the group moves in sync.

The glacier moss balls move together across the ice.

Bartholomäus compares this to a school of fish or a flock of birds.

Bartholomäus said he hopes future generations will one day “sort out these great mysteries.”

Sources: [Smithsonian Magazine](#) | [Phys.org](#)

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Are moss balls illegal now? ↑

These moss ball shipments have been coming from Ukraine, which is native habitat for zebra mussels, according to Wesley Daniel, a fisheries biologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. **It is illegal to own, sell or distribute live zebra mussels in the U.S.** 12 Mar 2021

## CHAPTER 3.

# Moss Balls as Pet

Moss balls are kept as pet by people around the world.

▶ <https://mossballpets.com/>

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▶ <https://ballsofmoss.com/>

A quote of advice with regard care for a moss ball:

*Waterlogged moss balls move up and down the fish tank. Remember, it's a living organism and responds to environmental cues. We suggest you do your research to provide adequate care and also choose a place in your home before you actually make the purchase.*

The movement of the moss balls across the ice on the North Pole is also an indication of intelligence:

*“The whole colony of moss balls, this whole grouping, moves at about the same speeds and in the same directions,” Bartholomaus tells NPR. “Those speeds and directions can change over the course of weeks.”*

*He explains that herd of 30 moss balls that they observed first moved slowly southward before accelerating west, and then losing speed. The new data show that the moss balls don’t move randomly—but the researchers couldn’t yet deduce what’s driving them.*

*The glacier moss balls didn’t follow any pattern that the researchers checked. The moss wasn’t rolling down a slope, getting pushed by the wind, or following the sun.*

Source: [\*Smithsonian Magazine\*](#)

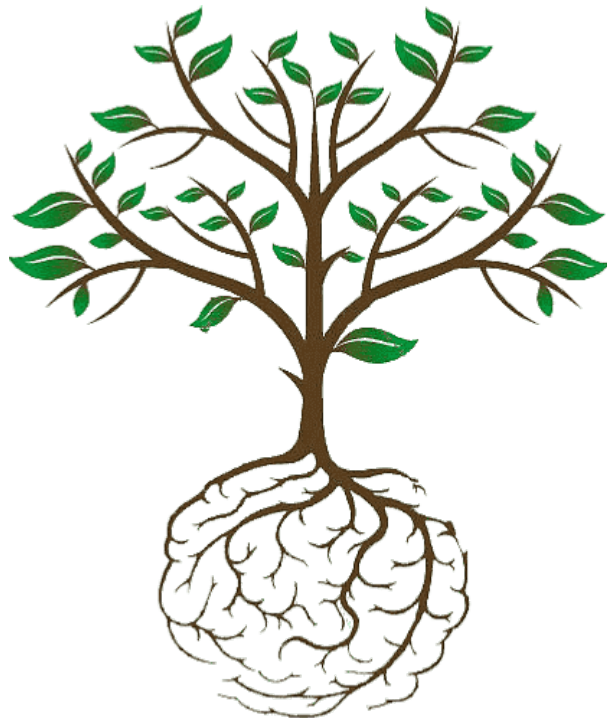


## CHAPTER 4.

# Moss Balls Moving Around Rocks

**T**here are small and large balls that manage to maintain the same speeds. This includes rolling up-hill and around rocks and obstacles.





## CHAPTER 5.

# Plant Intelligence

Recent scientific discoveries show that the root system of plants contains many neurotransmitters that are also present in the human brain, including dopamine, norepinephrine, serotonin and histamine.

The discoveries further indicate that the root system of plants can grow many billions of cells at the tips of the roots that function similarly to brain neurons. For some plants, it would result in a number of neurons that rival those of the human brain.

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**(2010) Recently surprising similarities between plant cells and neurons**

Source: [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

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## **(2014) New research on plant intelligence may forever change how you think about plants**

*How plants sense and react is still somewhat unknown. Plants have a system for sending electrical signals and even produce neurotransmitters, like dopamine, serotonin and other chemicals the human brain uses to send signals.*

Source: [TheWorld.org](https://www.theworld.org)

## **(2015) Research Shows Plants Are Sentient**

*Not only do plants engage in neuron-like activity and movement, they make mathematical computations, see us and, like animals that act altruistically, show kindness toward their relatives.*

Source: [Good Nature Travel](#) | [The Society for Plant Neurobiology](#) | [The Society of plant signaling and behavior](#)

## **(2015) Plants signal stress like animals do: with neurotransmitters**

Source: [ZME Science](#)

## **(2019) Plants ‘Scream’ in the Face of Stress**

Source: [Live Science](#)

## **(2017) Plants can see, hear and smell – and respond**

*Plants, according to professor Jack C. Schultz, “are just very slow animals”.*

*This is not a misunderstanding of basic biology. Schultz is a professor in the Division of Plant Sciences at the University of Missouri in Columbia, and has spent four decades investigating the interactions between plants and insects. He knows his stuff.*

Source: [BBC](#)

## **(2019) □ Flowers are talking to animals—and humans are just starting to listen**

*Scientists increasingly believe that trees and plants communicate with each other, various living things, and the environment.*

Source: [Quartz](#)



## **Philosopher: Plants are sentient beings that should be treated with respect**

*His claim that a plant is a sentient “intelligent, social, complex being” has been contested by some biologists, but a stronger reaction has come from animal-rights activists and vegans who fear their cause is undermined by extending a duty of respect to plants.*

Source: [Irish Times](#) | Book: [Plant-Thinking: A Philosophy of Vegetal Life](#) | [michaelmarder.org](#) (professor)

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