

- GM CANOLA IS A SCAM -

Genetically manipulated (GM) Roundup tolerant canola loads extra costs, risks and hazards onto farmers, the food industry and shoppers. We all pay more for patented GM canola - on farms, in supply chains and in our food. Monsanto makes monopoly profits and takes control of the global food supply, yet gets off scotfree when GM contamination happens and livelihoods are affected.

Competitive advantage will be lost

GM undermines Australia's unique competitive advantage as the major supplier of GM-free oilseeds and grains into world markets. CBH Manager Peter Elliott said Europeans will buy over 90% of WA's non-GM canola at a premium of up to \$50 per tonne over GM canola, for at least five years. He says: "When you're growing GM at the moment you

need to compete against Canada but when you've got non-GM you get a free kick into Europe and some markets in Japan. There's a massive advantage to be growing non-GM this year, because Europe has been so aggressively buying up all the non-GM tonnage." GM canola gives our unique non-GM advantage to our competitors, the USA and Canada.

GM spills



GM canola seed spilled at Williams outside farmer Geoff Reed's place. He saw parrots feed on the seed where it germinated on 50 metres of roadside after rain. The GM seed threatens his GM-free & no-chemical systems and may already be on his neighbour's farms. Twelve growers at Williams wanted to stay GM-free and are reviewing their options.

GM contamination inevitable

When GM canola pollutes organic and non-GM crops, affected farmers suffer losses and extra costs. WA organic farmer Steve Marsh was decertified and lost his premium markets when GM canola blew onto his farm in November. Conventional grower Bob Mackley, Horsham Vic,

also had his farm GM contaminated in floods, losing his option to grow non-GM canola and earn the premiums. Bob has had to wear the many extra costs and losses of GM contamination as his GM neighbour, state government and GM seed owner, Monsanto, will not pay.

Farmer protection laws needed

State governments are responsible for protecting all growers and their right to farm but WA supports GM dominance. Farmer protection laws are needed to make the patent owners and growers of GM seed responsible and strictly liable for any GM contamination and damage. Farmer protection laws would ensure

that growers like Steve Marsh and Bob Mackley automatically get compensation for their losses and extra costs, from a pool of funds levied on the sale of GM seed. Without the statute they must use the common law and go to court to get compensation and to recover damages. That's not fair or right.



Steve Marsh, Kojonup WA



Bob Mackley, Horsham Victoria

GM canola costs more but pays less

Monsanto's GM seed costs more, you must use branded Roundup and end point royalties are due on the harvest. Yet the 49,000 tonnes of GM canola from 70,000 hectares last season in WA is stored and unsold. Shopper demand for non-GM here and abroad is so strong that Grain traders Elders-Toepfer and Glencore

Grain do not buy GM canola at all. In Victoria last season CBH and Viterro also bought only GM-free canola. Kangaroo Island Pure Grain, in GM-free SA, also reaps the benefits of strong local and export demand for its non-GM canola and non-GM canola honey for which growers are also paid big premiums.

GM crops have stalled

Promises of drought and salt tolerant GM crops are farfetched. Monsanto launched GM soy, corn, canola and cotton in 1996 in the USA, with two GM traits - herbicide tolerance to Roundup and in-built insect toxin.

Most GM varieties are just the same now and the 50% grown in the USA are subsidised, over 90% in Nth & South America, & 70% are Roundup tolerant soy for animal feed and biofuels. GM is not a global industry.

Farmer to Farmer film - GM USA: <http://gmcropsfarmertofarmer.com/film.html>