

## **News Media Release 18/8/08**

### **West Australian GM-free breakthrough today**

Gene Ethics applauds Premier Alan Carpenter's announcement of a four-year extension to the WA ban on all Genetically Manipulated (GM) food and fiber crops.

"This announcement isolates the rogue states Victoria and NSW which have allowed GM canola to be planted this year without the agreement or consent of a majority of states or citizens," says Gene Ethics Director Bob Phelps.

"We call on all governments to match the WA initiative, to support the national uniform system of GM regulation.

"Without uniformity we could still see GM contamination spread across Australia, against the interests of most rural industries and over 90% of all shoppers.

"The decision by Goodman Fielder to label its Meadowlea canola spread as GM-free is another breakthrough, with Woolworth's also guaranteeing its canola oil as grown in WA and therefore GM-free.

"GM-free is the way to stay for health, safety and the environment," Mr Phelps concludes.

Comment:

Bob Phelps 03 9347 4500 or 0449 769 066

Also contact:

THE HON ALAN CARPENTER MLA  
Tel: (08) 9222 9888 - Premier's Office  
Fax: (08) 9322 1213