

Submission Cover Sheet

# Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

**Submission Number:** 187

**Name of Individual/Organisation:** Carolyn Bilney

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**Attachments Submitted with this Submission:**

To obtain copies of these attachments please call the Review Panel Secretariat on  
(03) 9658 4874 or (03) 9658 4871

Department of  
Primary Industries

17 AUG 2007

MAIL SERVICE CENTRE

14/8/07

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R.D.

To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to request the C.M.  
Canada Review Panel Secretariat please  
err on the side of caution and extend  
the C.M. Canada ban until 2013.

The huge costs and market  
impacts will be impossible to reclaim  
if this current ban is allowed to expire.

At present Australian farmers,  
providing C.M.-free canola have a  
competitive edge on all markets and are  
receiving a premium of \$A120/tonne  
(A.B.A.R.E. 2007) This will collapse if  
C.M.-free status cannot be guaranteed;  
and who will pay for the testing to  
give consumers a guarantee that the  
product they desire is uncontaminated?

Who will bear the costs if herbicide-tolerant weed species proliferate? Surely the growers must be liable for these weed infestations (wild radish, eye-grass etc) - in neighbouring properties, roadsides, National Parks etc.

If the monoclerium ends, the chemical companies involved will effectively control the supply of chemicals required and all seed production. This cannot be allowed to happen; - a very dubious economic benefit!

An article in *The Age* - Saturday August 11<sup>th</sup> - titled "To bee or not to bee?" by Orietta Guerrero - quotes pesticides and G.M. crops among the possible culprits causing bees to vanish in the U.S.A. Scientists are investigating the devastating die-off of this massive "economic impact"; - not only the loss of honey production, but all pollination!

The so-called economic benefit of allowing the Canada ban to expire is not warranted.

Surely the potential costs to our markets, farmers, consumer health, & the irreversible damage to the environment, far outweigh any economic benefit at this stage.

Please listen to the science! - and extend the moratorium till 2013, till more facts are known

Thank you,

Yours sincerely,

Carolyn Bilney