

Submission Cover Sheet

Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

Submission Number: 248

Name of Individual/Organisation: Warwick, Bernard & Jane Farman

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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

04 SEP 2007

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GM Canola Review Secretariat
Department of Primary Industries
GPO Box 4440
Melbourne, Vic 3001.

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31st August 2007

Dear Sirs,

RE: Review of State Ban on GM Canola

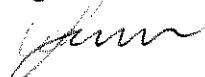
The state of Victoria has had a ban on GM Canola since 2003. The GM Canola Review Secretariat is considering lifting this ban. What has changed since 2003 to cause the ban to be lifted? By lifting the ban, you will be responsible for the following economic consequences:

- To destroy Australia's marketing advantage of **clean, green** produce: risking markets worth millions of dollars in south and east Asia and Europe for that clean, green produce. Review the **lost markets** Canada has suffered. Consider the **countries imposing economic restrictions** on GE products, including Russia, Germany, Greece and Cyprus.
- Destroy the **economics of farming**, for those who **choose** not to use GE crops. You **cannot prevent** the wind, insects and birds spreading GE seed and pollen. Farmers who choose not to use GE crops will lose their livelihood through contamination of their pastures with GE seed and may become liable to the GE seed company for having those GE plants growing. Again, look at Canada for examples of the consequences.
- Threaten bee populations: insect-resistant crops in the USA are **killing bees** away from the hive. Economically, these bee populations are **responsible for pollinating** fruit, pasture and horticulture crops. The American Beekeepers Association asserts that **every third bite in our diet is dependent on pollination by honey bees**.
- Accept the safety assertions, as our food safety authority FSANZ does, of the GE product manufacturers: there has been no independent research of the manufacturer's safety claims. Consider the **economic consequences** should safety problems arise at a later point. **GE Crops cannot be recalled**.

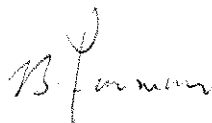
All these doubts, yet what is **undoubted** is that tens of millions of consumers worldwide **avoid purchasing GM products, a huge economic cost** if you approve GE crops. Please **consider these issues and retain the current ban on GE Canola**. Please reply in writing to this letter.

Yours faithfully,

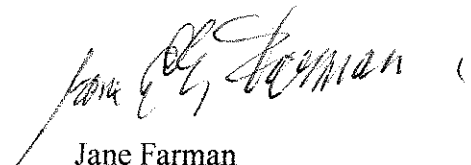
Signed:



Warwick Farman



Bernard Farman



Jane Farman