

Submission Cover Sheet

Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

Submission Number: 249

Name of Individual/Organisation: Saul Cresswell & John Harvey

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Attachments Submitted with this Submission:

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(03) 9658 4874 or (03) 9658 4871

GM Canola Review Panel Secretariat
Department of Primary Industries
Level 19, 1 Spring St, Melbourne 3001



To the GM Canola Review Panel Secretariat,

I am writing out of a deep concern that a dangerous and irreversible decision could be made. Ample evidence from all around the globe highlights the dangers involved in this entirely novel process. Genetic Modification is completely separate from conventional breeding practices of the last 12,000 years.

Canola is wind and insect pollinated, and as such GM canola cannot be segregated from non-GM. This entails a huge economic cost to non-GM farmers in Australia. When Canada started to grow GM canola in 1998 it lost \$300 to \$400 million in sales to the European market, which is closed to GM. The value of Australian food exports to the European Union was \$1.85 billion in 2001-02. Do we want to compromise this trade for an unnecessary and dangerous gamble? I, and other farmers, are not prepared to have our livelihoods threatened.

The health risks of GM foods are well documented on the web site of the Network of Concerned Farmers, <<http://www.non-gm-farmers.com>>. From damaged immune systems, to cellular mutations, to reproductive problems and sterility, GM cannot seriously be announced safe.

I am not alone in my serious misgivings about this very young scientific process. I would be astonished if your final decision approved GM canola for production in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saul Cresswell".

Saul Cresswell.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Harvey".

John Harvey