

Submission Cover Sheet

Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

Submission Number: 170

Name of Individual/Organisation: David L Curry

Date Received: 17 August 2007

Number of Pages: 1

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

Submission 170 B 52



Submission to the Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola, 2007

I was born with a hoe in my hand, back in 1954, left Glenormiston Agricultural College in 1973, and have farmed ever since.

Over my life I have seen many changes, and today on my family farm near Casterton in western Victoria we are having to change our farming practices to cope with problems created by previous generations – foxes, rabbits, salinity, erosion, blue-green algae, chemical resistance, the list goes on. These people had good intentions, but not enough knowledge and understanding of how complex our soils and climate and natural environment are.

I am not a scientist, but have followed the GM debate with great interest. My fear is that we will release yet another serious problem into our environment, and that the generations to come will suffer from the foolishness of our decision.

If we introduce GM crops, such as canola, then contamination of non-GM crops is simply inevitable. This contamination would effectively remove choice from farmers opposed to GM crops. And its flow-on effects would threaten the secondary producers, such as dairy and food processing plants, that supply the growing consumer demand for GM-free food.

The decision to introduce GM crops is irreversible. It is a decision too important to be made in haste and without long-term **independent** research. I can only hope that common sense will prevail.

David L. Currie

17 August 2007

A small, stylized handwritten mark or signature, possibly initials, located at the bottom right of the page.