

Submission Cover Sheet

Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

Submission Number: 172

Name of Individual/Organisation: Cathy Cheadle

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Attachments Submitted with this Submission:

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Department of
Primary Industries
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Submission 172

16 August 2007

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GM Canola Review Panel Secretariat
Dep of Primary Industries
Level 19, 1 Spring St
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in regard to lifting the moratorium on GM canola.

Personally, I am against Australia jumping on the bandwagon to get involved in the production of genetically modified crops. Australia is in the unique position of supplying a GM-free market to consumers who are against genetic modification in their food. For example, there is a demand in Europe and Asia for GM-free food and they do not want to import GM crops from the USA. Once GM is allowed in, there is no turning back. We only need to look to what has happened to Canada to see how detrimental this step would be for our export trade. We would be in direct competition with the United States and I am not convinced that the move is in Australia's best interests. We still do not know the longterm effects of genetically modified food, and if these effects prove to be detrimental, there will be no going back. I would prefer to err on the side of safety – and be in the position of supplying an untainted product to discerning consumers. Research is showing that consumers are leaning more towards green and organic.

Yours sincerely

Cathy Cheadle