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The Regulations Review
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (MDP 54)
GPO Box 9848
Canberra ACT 2601

Good morning

RE: Technical Review of the Gene Technology Regulations 2001 - call for submissions

So why are the multinational companies pushing for access to Australia to grow their Genetically Modified (GM) crops?

The obvious answer of course is money, lots of money.

But that is not the only item on their agenda. Monopolisation of the gene pool of food is the ultimate prize. They are achieving that goal here in Australia through the Office of Gene Technology Advisory Group that advises the Government by allowing trial plots of GM crops, that will eventually cross pollinate to every like crop within our country. This will have a devastating effect on every organic producer in Australia and will totally destroy the organic export sector of all commodities containing any GM, in full or in part thereof, to all countries that reject GM, including the EU. The EU have already declared GM as too risky and they are taking the precautionary approach to wait and see what happens before they vote on this subject. They are unlikely to do that for at least 18 months.

Bastardization of our Food

Once any GM contamination has been released into the environment, it can never be retrieved and humanity will forever have to eat this in their food chain with the proven resulting health problems that this contamination causes. This has been proven by "Peer Review Science" publications obtained by IFOAM that Glyphosate does cause "Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma". Children are most at risk because they don't have the enzymes in their liver to break down these intruders. How do we as a species tell our children that we have allowed this to happen, and we can't even hold the makers of this atrocity accountable for their negligence, and their environmental vandalism?

The gene pool of all seeds is the property and birth right of all humanity and does not belong to multinational corporations for their insatiable appetite for profit and certainly not for their use, to bastardize for commercial gain, and it surly is not for their use, and their use alone.



Industrial Sabotage

This is industrial sabotage at its worst, and it is sanctioned by our own Government, despite the masses of Peer Review Science that is out there for the taking, warning of the danger of this technology. There is no doubt that this push into Australia is a blatant attempt to dirty our countries image as clean and green so our standards are bought down to their level, so that their producers are not disadvantaged. It is designed to force the organic industry to change its Standard to accompany this environmental vandalism to protect their interests at the expense of our health and our valuable export trade. The same outcome is portrayed in the recent push to have the AS6000 Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Products changed and for this to be made into Australia's organic export Standard.

Why doesn't the Australian Government protect its producers?

What these companies have done in Australia is what they have also done many times in America. This is highlighted by the Steve Marsh court case in Western Australia whereas the courts in Western Australia had no other choice than to follow the law set down by the Federal Government. That law and this ruling has virtually destroyed an organic farmer, simply because he was farming beside a GM crop that contaminated his crop. The multinational seed company that owns the patents for that seed planting got off scott-free because of the failings of the Federal Government to protect its own organic producers. These so-called trial plots are likely deliberately positioned to achieve their known outcome. It has happened many times in America and will have the same effect here in Australia. These multinational corporations just get RICHER and crush anyone in their way. The certified organic Industry in Australia is on their hit list, clearly in their sights and in their way.

Our position on these matters is as follows:

- (1) We do not want GM contamination in Australia.
- (2) We do want the laws repealed to stop GM's from flourishing in Australia
- (3) We do want to put the onus on the owners of GM patented products to be liable for contamination of our food chain and liable for any cross pollination of their product to the environment, either accidentally or deliberate.
- (4) We do want the laws regarding Truth in Labelling to be strengthened to include the content of GM Organisms so consumers can make their own decision as to what they eat. This is a basic human right that should never be decided by Government.

Kind Regards

Keith Morris
Managing Director
The Organic Food Chain Pty Ltd