



# NO!GMO Campaign

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Murray Goulburn

April 1, 2008

Dear Sir or Madam,

## **Please continue raising your dairy cattle with non-GMO feed!**

We are the No! GMO Campaign, that started in 1996 as a Japanese group of citizens that were alarmed by the many problems associated with genetically modified (GM) food. Our goal is to keep not only Japan but also the world GM-free and make sure GM foods are completely eliminated.

As you probably know, Japan has a low food self-sufficiency rate, importing some 60% of the food from other countries. Japan currently imports farm products, beef and other meat products, dairy products, natural cheese, and wheat from the following top four countries: The United States, China, EU and Australia. Due to the outbreak of BSE in North America, Japan has increased its imports of beef from Australia and New Zealand, as we are aware of the fact that safe and delicious beef as well as dairy products are produced by grass feeding. In particular, we understand that since Australia has sufficient pasture land, you are raising cows with grass instead of feeding large amounts of grain.

However, we are very concerned that several states in your country lifted their moratoria against farming GM crops. We agree with the Australian NGO "Mothers against Genetic Engineering", who say: "We want our children to drink milk from cows that are not fed with GM feed!"

Since Japan imports most of its feed from North America, GM feed is generally used for domestic dairy cows. Under such circumstances, we strongly support all dairy farmers here and abroad who are raising cows with non-GM feed. Japanese consumers actively choose dairy products from such dairy farmers. Japan imports dairy products including natural cheese from Australia, and we also import natural cheese from EU countries. If you allow GM feed for raising cows in Australia, Japanese consumers may choose European dairy products that are produced with milk from cows and goats raised locally with non-GM feed.

Australian food producers and Japan's consumers should cooperate to secure GM-free dairy products.

Sincerely,

Amagasa Keisuke  
Chairperson  
No! GMO Campaign