

Premier Mike Rann

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Dear Premier

Japanese Consumers Request South Australia to Continue Moratorium on GM Crops

Japan mostly depends on imported canola because its domestic cultivation is very limited. GM free canola is supplied by your country while GM canola is imported from Canada. Your decision to have a GM free policy has been highly appreciated by consumers around the World, which leads to the worldwide reputation of Australian canola.

GM canola from Canada has caused serious problems in Japan. It has begun to grow wild and spread as a result of spillage from imported seed and from cross pollination. Once contamination occurs, it is irreversible. Even in the country like Japan where GM canola is not commercially planted, we face the problem of GM contamination.

If GM crops will be approved and cultivated in your country, cross pollination and contamination will be inevitable. Reputation of your crops would be badly damaged. In the case of canola, your product will be no different from Canadian canola, and Japanese consumers would stop buying it. You may lose the competitiveness on the world market.

Japanese consumers do not want to eat GM crops whose safety is not proven. Safe and environmentally friendly crops are what we really want. We sincerely ask you to continue your moratorium on GM crops.

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Co-signed by 57 organizations:

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Shinjo Rice field Trust,
Consumers Co-operative Union Kirari,
Michinaga,
Anti-GM Farmers' network Japan,
Puru Anfan,
Food Policy Center Vision21,
Japan Organic Agriculture Association,
GMO Information Service Japan,
Shoku to Kankyō-Mirai Net (Chubu-Yotsuba-Kai),
Zenkoku-Gathskou Kyushoku-o-kangaeru-kai,
Teikeimai Network,
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Tsukuba-Shimin-Network,
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Yonezawa Oil Manufacturing Co., Ltd.,
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Food Safety Citizens' Watch,
Safety Food Network,
Saitama-Ken Shimin Network,
Policy Research Institute for the Civil Sector,
A Seed Japan,
Aichi Coop,
Co-op Shizenha Olive,
Hyogo Pasteurized Milk Network,
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Green Co-op Nagasaki Consumer's Cooperation,
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