

Aspendale Gardens,

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THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

Submission to Regulation of Agriculture Enquiry

In reviewing the Regulation of Agriculture you have the responsibility for the health of every Australian citizen to consider. With regards to Genetically Modified food crops the 12 billion tons of glyphosate and other chemicals dumped on the soil worldwide kills the soil bacteria and leads to a lower nutrient content of the crops grown on that soil (1)

We are told to study history to avoid making mistakes made in the past. No country has used more chemicals on GMO crops than the USA and since the 1990s there has been a direct correlation of at least 22 diseases and the use of glyphosate. (2)

The future health costs alone will be staggering not including the loss of productivity and subsequent economic ramifications.

Several animal studies indicate serious health risks associated with GM food consumption including Infertility, immune dysregulation, accelerated aging, dysregulation of genes associated with cholesterol synthesis, insulin regulation, cell signalling and protein formation changes in liver, kidney, spleen and the gastrointestinal system. (3)

There has been a marked decrease in the numbers of pollinators, bees, butterflies and others, which effects 30% of food production. When rain water was tested it was found that 60% contained glyphosate which means the drinking water and organic crops are contaminated. Consumer opposition to GMOs is growing fast.

GE wheat crops would mean a massive increase in the use of pesticides and herbicides which would result in the further deterioration of good soil health, loss of key pollinators and risks to human health and water pollution. (4)

This does not address the safety of GM crops themselves (barring loss of nutrition from loss of bacteria in the soil) (1) but if GMOs are no different to natural crops how could they be patented? Australian people have a right to clear labelling on food (and other) products to be able to choose the food they and their families eat to maintain good health. If the manufacturers of GM products are so proud of their products why would they not want to label them?

What will the threshold for non GMO be? Currently the product cannot contain more than 0.9% GMO To find something that is 100% GMO free is nearly impossible due to air and rain

contamination. What protection will be given to farmers most of whom remain GMO free? It is not possible to prevent cross contamination of GE and non GE products as has already been shown in WA. China in 2013/14 has rejected around 2.9 billion metric tons of USA corn exports (some of which was replaced by Australian barley) due to contamination of unapproved GM variety – Viptera (6)

The EU will not allow GMOs under any circumstances into their food and feed chain (5) and neither will Russia.

Farmers play an incredibly important role in protecting health and in supporting the economic wellbeing of Australian agriculture. They are also at high risk of illness from farm chemicals. Two thirds of Australian agriculture is exported and at present still has “clean green” credentials in many overseas countries who buy our products.

Australia must not make the same mistakes as some other countries.

GM crops pose unacceptable risks to our health, the environment and key export markets.

Removing the bans and GM labelling would eliminate choice for farmers and consumers.

Food must be clearly labelled in simple language that is easily understood.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs) Susan Moore

Further information may be found

Dr Stephanie Seneff

Bio Med Research International <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2014/179691>

The Institute for Responsible Technology Dr Jeffery Smith:

www.ResponsibleTechnology.org/references

(1) Dr. Zacary Bush MD Restore4Life.com. See cellular Healing podcast 110

(2) The Journal of Organic Systems September 2014

(3) The American Academy of Environmental Medicine

(4) Food Revolution Network CEO O. Robbins

(5) European Commission

(6) Friends of the Earth Energy Tech Project