

Inquiry into the regulation of Australian agriculture

Personal responses and views: Gene technology

To aid readability, some minor formatting and editing has been undertaken.

Your report is deeply flawed and disappointing. Non-GM is of economic benefit - as the current (and now longstanding) premium on GM free canola demonstrates.

You have also failed to account for the strong and enduring view of a strong majority of Australians that they don't want to eat GM and they want any product that contains GM to be properly labelled. To ignore this view is to deprive the public of the very choices that neo-liberal ideology supposedly supports.. Instead you are supporting a market dictatorship.

I have the right not to eat GM foods. I have the right to know what is in the foods I eat - and that right is far more important than that of multinational to increase its profits at my expense.

I want:

- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because my ethical, dietary and environmental views are deeply important to me.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I don't trust our federal regulators who are completely captive to industry.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because I don't want transnational corporations controlling the food chain.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because food affects my health and I want to know what I'm eating
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I need to know what I'm buying
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because they are the 'clean coal' of industrial ag. They do not yield more, they use more pesticides, they have not been proven safe (a handful of 90 day studies by the GM companies, rubber stamped by FSANZ does not equal safety or science) and there are far better alternatives
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because no one wants to eat GM. GM contaminates and contamination spreads. GM companies should be responsible for clearing up their unwanted crops, not be allowed to spread them irresponsibly.

Access to nourishing safe food is a basic human right. I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled
- informative food labels that let me make choices about the health of my grandchildren, children and self now and into the future

- my state government to review the release of GM crops to be clear about risks and contaminated crops
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free as I believe we are able to provide food without large scale risky food production

I am dismayed to hear that you have recommended GM food labelling be removed. As an Australian citizen and consumer I am horrified at the thought of not knowing whether or not food I am buying at the supermarket is genetically modified. Transparency is one of the hallmarks of good democracies.

I want protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the science has proven that GM contaminates the integrity of the molecules in the seeds, thereby reducing the benefit that God gave us to eat.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because it is my right to make an informed decision when I buy food for my family
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I get to choose what I do and don't eat
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because the science is still undecided
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because it is their right to grow crops GM-free if they so choose.

I want

- all GM foods to be labelled because their effects are still uncertain
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I can then make an informed choice
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it's too early to accept that there are no side effects
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because these products simply haven't had enough long term tests.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because don't want to unknowingly have to eat GM foods.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I have a right to make choices for my family's health

- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because it makes it clear about my choices
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it is something 90% of Australians want
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they should not be forced to grow GM food which will threaten the growing popularity of organic food which is the number one food choice of many overseas buyers.

GM foods labelling should be mandatory because consumers have a right to be fully informed in their choice of foodstuffs. Informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I value my health and wellbeing. I DO NOT want to buy GM products!

It is important to me that all State governments review the release of GM crops because Australia needs full protection for farmers, most of whom choose to remain GM-free.

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.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I have a right to know the provenance of the food I buy
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I have no way to make choices otherwise. There is no reason to withhold this information from the consumer
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there is credible evidence of damage to animals and human beings from the glyphosate (Round Up) that these crops require
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because GM farming means they must ever after buy their seed, no longer able to use their own tried and tested seed, that is not Glyphosate-dependent for their future crops.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want the choice to be able to feed my family GM-free foods
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because choice is essential in buying food these days
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because State Governments should have the right to decide the value of introduced GM crops on an economic footing for the state
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the vast majority of Australian farmers, and about 98% of the world's farmers continue to farm GM-free, and their choice to grow this way should not be compromised by GM contamination.

I want all GM foods to be labelled, because without such regulation, consumers cannot know what they are eating. These products are largely untested and their long-term effects are unknown. They were first launched on the American market with its poor and problematic regulatory system. In the US, unlike Europe and Australia; there is no robust prior proof of safety required.

We must have informative food labels that let people decide what to buy. It is the only effective way - where regulation has not previously intervened - to prevent the introduction by stealth of foodstuffs that many regard as adulterated food and potential poisons.

I believe my territory government is best-placed to consider the release of GM crops because our national government has a conflict in enforcing safety, accepting as it does the claim that regulation of these products is a “trade barrier” (sic) when negotiating so-called free trade agreements.

I insist we protect our land and our farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the use of these products is designed to force farmers to introduce acknowledged poisons such as the herbicides manufactured by the firms that are pushing genetically-altered products. The farmers face grave legal consequences and financial liability to the agribusiness concerns for the contaminated crops on their own land.

There is nothing in GMO's that would benefit Australia.

I support labelling of GM food products. I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I consider them fundamentally different from natural food products
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I have the right to choose
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I feel that their full environmental and health impacts have not been fully or adequately assessed
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they have a fundamental right to grow their food free of GM pollution. Nor do I want GM pollution to risk the safety and purity of the food chain.

I do not support GM crops. Nor do I want to eat them. Please do not remove my right to choice as a consumer.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I have a right to know
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I have a right to know
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I am concerned about GM foods
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because I don't want to consume GM foods!

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because as a consumer I have the basic right to choose and know what I am putting in my body. Labelling of GM products is required in 64 countries
- my state government to review the release of GM crops as once GM crops are in situ there is no turning back. It is a threat to crop diversity. We need to be a producer of clean premium produce for local, national and international consumption.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they need security for the future- no cross contamination of crops, ability to export to countries that are increasingly rejecting GM produce for a variety of reasons

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I do not want to eat GM and it is my right to make an informed choice about what I eat
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because there should be truth in labelling
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it is the right thing to do. Without regulation, industries turn rogue!
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because GMO free premiums are great for SA and Tasmania. Let's keep SA and Tasmania GMO free!

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want to know exactly what is in my food
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because producers should be able to compete on perceived quality and origin of the food they make and the market is built on a foundation of consumer sovereignty
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because these may contaminate other farmers non-GM crops, and affect the ability of these farmers in competing and providing non-GM food, and there may be health and environmental impacts
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they should be able to grow non-GM crops without the risk of contamination.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because as a consumer, I want to make informed choices
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy help our family's productivity
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because cross contamination with non-GM crops happens. Cross contamination renders people without choice. The Precautionary Principle indicates that where a new technology is to be applied, and there is not unanimous scientific agreement as to its safety, those wanting this technology must prove its safety and take precaution.

- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because it safeguards future crops from contamination.

I am asking that the Precautionary Principle be urgently applied.

I have an objection to eating glyphosate, which the WHO has declared to be a probable carcinogen. GM foods have been repeatedly demonstrated to be high in glyphosate. I need to know what I am buying, so I can make this choice.

For a similar reason, I object to GMOs grown in Victoria. The applied Roundup is impossible to contain. Its use leads to superweeds. We are poisoning our planet.

GM technique is ethically neutral, but the way it is applied is evil. It has led to a great deal of suffering globally, for example leading many thousands of Indian small farmers to suicide.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because informative food labels let me decide what is safe to buy.

I eat only organic food because it is superior in quality and has not been interfered with by large conglomerates who are only interested in selling junk food to poor people.

Organic farmers are under pressure as their crops are frequently “poisoned” by GM crops.

My state government must be allowed to review the release of GM crops because GM foods are a threat to the health and wellbeing of all who eat them and the production of pure organic foods are good for sustainability and for the State’s economy.

I want clean healthy food with NO Roundup applied, infused, in the ground or otherwise. This stuff is extremely harmful to our health, with probable causes of Cancers and Dementia.

I strongly support GM food labelling and the rights of the States to remain GM-Free. In my opinion, if we do otherwise, we will heavily pay the price, into the future.

I want:

- absolutely all GM foods to be labelled because I have a right to know what substances I am ingesting and feeding to my children. There is growing evidence that GM foods are responsible for severe negative impacts on human health and the longer term effects are still unknown. It is totally irresponsible for any government to allow the manufacturers of GM food to silently slip them into the food we eat without clear labelling. The public is not as stupid and uninformed as governments imagine. GM companies know this and that is why they are desperate to get their products onto food store shelves without the public being aware. Why else do they oppose labelling so forcefully?
- my state government to have the balls to stand up to foreign government coercion - particularly from the USA - and intelligently review the release of GM crops because the long term effects of these products on the environment and in the human system is not known

- the government to be smart enough to look at the full range of research on GM products and not be willing to simply take the word of the GM companies who have already shown they cannot be trusted to tell the truth about their products
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because not only do they have the right to produce uncontaminated food but they deserve the option to tap into the growing international market for pure, clean, organic foods without being compromised by GM crops nearby.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I have the right to be able to know if I'm eating conventional DNA or transgenic DNA produce
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I have the right to be able to know if I'm eating conventional DNA or transgenic DNA produce
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because states should be able to regulate GM crops to protect public health and the environment
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because of the dangers of horizontal gene transfer, as in the case of WA farmer Steve Marsh.

I am writing to insist that all GM foods are labelled because I have multiple food allergies and you cannot be certain that GM foods will not produce antigens which compromise my health.

GM foods cannot be guaranteed to be safe to eat. As a person with a degree in Genetics I am extremely concerned that the precautionary principle is not being followed.

I do not want the state government to approve the release of GM crops as they may have devastating unforeseen consequences and pollute the food chain.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I struggle with various allergies & health problems and therefore wish to eat clean organic non GMO food.

I wish my state government to review the release of GM crops because I feel it is my right to know what I'm eating and to eat non GMO I care about protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because their crops will be contaminated and worthless.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want to know what is in my food and that includes oils
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I ought to have that right
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I want the Moratorium maintained in SA
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, for the preservation of organic and conventional crops because GM contaminates.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I don't want to support GM companies which don't have health or people as their concern, just their profits. GM products inherently have less genetic diversity than normal crops, so increase the risk of fungal, bacterial or viral infection that could wipe out crops. Having a greater plant diversity will maximise long term survival and food diversity, which is also needed to reduce the incidence of allergies in the population.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I have the right to support a greater diversity in food sources, and don't want to buy GM, as mentioned above.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because for people who choose organic, or non-GM, farmers should be able to grow crops without fear of contamination with GM crops which would mean a loss of organic status, as seen with that case in WA.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want to know what I am really eating.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I believe that I have the right to make an informed choice
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it represents the entire population & every voice/opinion needs to be heard
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because there are enough challenges facing our farmers, most of whom are doing it tough already.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because, under The Australian Consumer Act and legislation in Australia, consumers in Australia have a right to know what goods consumers are actually purchasing and the disclosure of a product contents must be disclosed on products on consumer goods in Australia, to ensure No deceptive and misleading conduct occurs to consumers, when purchasing goods and this includes food goods, within Australia
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I would like to know what is in the food that I purchase.

I request that my state government review the release of GM crops because I need to know as a consumer so I can make an informed decision about the food I purchase within Australia that could seriously impact my health and future generations to come.

I urge you and your government to implement legislation in Australia Nation-wide to protect farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because of the long-term economic detriment and damage caused by chemical companies pushing GMO crops onto Australian farmers to eradicate clean, safe food production in the interests to elevate the USA agriculture industry and destroy the current GM free agriculture and food production industries in Australia, for US gain causing permanent economic detriment to Australia's GDP and long-term inter-generational damage to human health and increased burdening to the health system in Australia

for many centuries into the future which will in turn turn Australia into an unproductive 3rd world country of poor food quality and poor health.

GMO labelling on all food products in Australia can enable consumers to make informed decisions and choices about the food they purchase and eat within Australia and will curb chronic disease in human health and will enable Australia to become a healthy, productive and prosperous economy.

Wake up! Ban GM foods.

Australia could be the healthy food bowl of the world. Evidence already proves danger and sickness now and for future generations from GM. It is product of ego mad Scientists for aliens.

Nature is wise and produces what keeps us in health, science creates what causes sickness. Enough is enough. Get REAL. I want GM FOODS BANNED FROM Australia.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because it's not good for anyone's health and it's my right to know what food I choose to eat and it shouldn't be forced on me by greedy corporations who want to make money and not be responsible for sickness caused by their crap and toxic products
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because that should be my basic human right to have access to good clean and non-toxic food
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because no one has been able to prove to me this technology is safe and doesn't wreck my health, and until such time I don't want to part of a science experiment
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because there is no money in GMO foods except for the likes of Monsanto et. al, and people are not happy to have this toxic food like substance mixed in their food without their approval. Hence why I only eat certified organic food. It's just not worth risking eating this toxic poison no matter how "cheap" they can make it.

I request that all GM foods are to be labelled because the ill effects of GMO foods is not yet widely acknowledged. I do not want to put my family's health in danger. Informative food labels allow me to decide what to buy, catering to my specific needs and desires. No commission should be allowed to overturn the GMO crop decisions at state or community level. Protection for non GM farmers needs to be in place. Organic natural foods are what our bodies are meant to digest.

I want all GM foods labelled so that when I am purchasing food items I can make informed decisions on what I am consuming. Labelling would let me make these decisions so that I would be 100% aware if I am consuming a GM product or giving it to my family and children. I want the choice to not eat GM food and at the moment that choice is difficult because GM foods are not readily labelled on packaging!

As a mother and someone who is passionate about eating good, whole and healthy foods I am deeply concerned about GM crops and keeping GM crops in a controlled environment that would not affect other farmers/farms. I don't think enough research has been done to validate the need for GM foods and what the long term effects on our health could be.

Will there be protection for farmers who want to remain GM free? What steps will be in place for them?

It's not rocket science to think that there is something wrong with a crop that is sprayed with round up and is then processed for consumption! Not to mention the company that produces and sells GM crops also owns the company that produces and sells the poison to be sprayed onto these crops!

If an animal has been fed GM food and is for consumption, it should be labelled. If there are refined GM ingredients in foods, they should be labelled.

We have a right to make informed decisions about our food and what we are eating! Please label GM foods!

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because we need the choice on OUR food for our families
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because it's still my choice on if I would like to eat roundup. It's my body and life
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because GM crops are cancer causing, proven in independent studies
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because there is so much information out there that GM does not produce bigger yields. No one company has the right to force farmers into using a poison substance.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because from the extensive unbiased research I have done there is potential cause for concern for countless reasons
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because my children and I are like the canary in the coal mine and are sensitive. I don't want to introduce novel proteins into my body and excessive pesticides that may still be present. I want to choose to eat things that only occur naturally not in a lab that would never occur in nature. There are too many unknowns.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there is nowhere near enough independent long term research to say that it's unequivocally safe
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they can be sued for inadvertently having GM seeds in their fields through no fault of their own. This is routinely happening in the states and is completely unjust. Cross contamination is clearly unavoidable. Please research this deeply and don't believe everything Industry says about it. It's like the tobacco companies assuring us smoking was ok for our health - seriously. Thank you for listening.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because it is important for me to know exactly where my food comes from. Informative food labels that let me decide what to buy is crucial as I do not wish to purchase or consume GM food and I should be given the choice and be able to make my own decisions about what to purchase and consume. In addition to this farmers must be protected to remain GM free and not have their crops contaminated with GM crops nearby.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because consumers ought have the choice to avoid GM products if they wish to do so
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it is a valuable exercise to permit individual states to apply whatever caution they perceive to be in accord with the wishes of their constituents. This, still relatively new technology, is viewed with suspicion and distrust by many consumers and some of those companies whose interests are in GM have an appalling record regarding social and environmental responsibility
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because of their wish to capitalise on the premium prices that are associated with “clean, green” produce (both locally and internationally).

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because “I need to know to refuse to buy it!”
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because “I refuse to buy it without them!”
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because “I want them to refuse GM foods after the review!”
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because “it is their right to refuse to grow GM food!”

I understand that you may believe GM food to be acceptable and I am happy for you and your family to eat this food. However I do not believe GM food is acceptable and I do not want my family eating it, therefore I believe it is extremely important that if there is a trace of GM food contained in any item there should be a notice on the packaging just like there is if there may be a trace of peanuts or eggs in a product.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I don't want to eat GMO foods
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I don't want to support companies such as Monsanto.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there are questions about the safety of these foods

- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because we don't want our organic farmers to be threatened with situations like Steve Marsh.

I want all GM foods labelled because food labelling lets me decide what to buy.

I also would like the State government to review the release of GM crops in order to protect farmers, whom remain GM-free. As you are aware GM crops can contaminated non-GM crops and then the company that manufactures the GM seeds e.g. Monsanto can sue farmers for allowing the GM seeds to grow. This has happened before and I would particularly like to bring your attention to the case in WA where GM crops contaminated an organic farmer's crops and destroyed his livelihood.

If you are not 100 per cent sure on the safety concerns of GM crops take a look at the Pampas area of Argentina where they grow GM corn now. There has been a 40 per cent rise in some cancers and a 40 per cent rise in respiratory problems e.g. asthma. Furthermore where the cattle ranchers employed an average of 6 workers to a farm. GM farms employ only one as GM crops are highly mechanised.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I want to know what I am eating!

I want informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because it lets me know what the total ingredients are.

I want my state government to review the release of GM crops because it is important to know what is being released, and be able to restrict it if necessary.

I want protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they are the life blood of the country. Large corporate agribusinesses don't have the local communities needs in their focus, and don't have long term sustainability issues and health as an interest.

I want GM foods labelled because as a consumer I have the right to know. I have a right to know what I am feeding my children. It's as simple as that. It's about consumers rights to know what they are consuming. Many of the companies involved in GM production use the argument that the product is essentially the same and that there is no need to label but the original product has been intrinsically changed. It has been manipulated in a lab. It is no longer through a natural processes evolving over hundreds or thousands of years to be in harmony with the ecosystem and with the human beings who ingest it. If it is essentially the same as the original product as the GM producers claim then why do they patent the GM product? A patent is applied to a new product. Australia is a leader in labelling laws after the courageous decision to be the first country to introduce plain packaging to cigarettes and putting the public first ahead of the tobacco industry. I hope this tradition continues and the Productivity Commission take decisive action to require foods containing GM ingredients to be labelled. It's a right all consumers should have. To know what they are consuming and to make a choice as to what they want to consume.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want the right to choose what I feed my family

- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because without them there is no visibility
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there may be health links & issues identified in the future
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because we want to protect the integrity of our food supply.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want to be able to have that information available so that I can make informed decisions
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because my health is important to me
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there can never be enough testing of these products
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because we as a society need to have a food production system that provides healthy and nutritious food.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because we have a right to know what we and our families are consuming
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I don't trust large corporations to provide the best for my family
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it is vital that South Australia protects its green clean international status
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they should not be dependent on agribusiness multinationals for their seed, the health of their land and their livelihoods.

I want ALL GM foods and products to be labelled because the normal food sources have been adequate for humans needs for thousands of years, are scientifically proven healthier, and do not need altering.

GM foods must be labelled so that we are given true information on choices available to the public. We need information on the labels so that we can see what we are buying.

The State Government must review the release of GM crops so that farmers can keep their organic (natural) crops free of contamination. The contaminant crops will reduce crop values and public demand. Many countries are not allowing GM crops to contaminate their farming industry and Australia as a continent must keep its organic status.

Farmers must be given adequate protection against any GM contamination which reduces their crop value. They must be allowed to use organic seeds and these must be indicated on all food labels.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I'm not convinced any GM foods are safe
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I care about my family and the community's health and wellbeing
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I don't trust the Federal Government to prioritise the community's health over private sector profit
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they and the community deserve real choice

I want environment groups to stop campaigning against safe technology that could significantly improve the quality of life for people with coeliac disease. And also to stop using political tactics to try to block technology that could significantly reduce world hunger and millions of deaths.

I want all GMO Foods to be clearly labelled! If products are not labelled, this is an infringement on our basic consumer rights to know what we are eating, good or bad! The same as our foods are labelled "Organic" or "Preservative free" or "Low Salt" we have the right as consumers to know if the ingredients in the food products that we are consuming are Genetically modified.

We are seeing the residents of the USA fight for the rights to have their food labelled, and yet this government study is recommending that our rights to know are taken away!!? This raises some questions about who conducted this agriculture study and was Monsanto in any way consulted or involved in these findings??!! All food must be labelled "GMO" if it contains GM ingredients!!

Furthermore, we need stricter regulations for all GMO farming in Australia, as the many studies support and show that cross pollination and contamination can easily occur and does nothing to protect Organic farmers. Please refer to the recent case of Steve Marsh when his farm was contaminated by a neighbours genetically modified crop, resulting in Steve losing his "Organic certification" and crippling him financially!

If GMO farming continues to expand, we will see many more organic farms lose their certification and potentially their farms! This also could result in devastating long term implications on the environment and farming!

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I do NOT wish to eat food which has been modified
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because most GM food is hard to decipher
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I do not want all food contaminated by GM. I still wish to save my own seed which can be adulterated by GM on other properties

- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because currently Tasmania is & should remain so. When the rest of the world is GM, we will be glad our island has not succumbed.

We in our family feel:

- all GM foods should be labelled as we have a right to know what we are eating
- my state government must review the release of GM crops because there is plenty of evidence that the nearby farms are infected.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because most members of my family have food intolerances or serious compromised health problems. And because consumers have a democratic right to know what they are eating
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because safe foods in our family are a high priority
- my state government to review the release of GM crops and truthfully disclose their findings to the public and the rest of the scientific community for rigorous scrutiny and debate
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because natural selection and sustainable organic farming are proven to be better for animals, better for the environment and better for human health. And because genetically engineered foods are globally scientifically confirmed to be dangerous, risky and unsustainable. And because GM free farmers know that most consumers are increasingly choosing GM free and organically grown foods for ethical reasons. And because the worldwide waste of food is proof that we do not need GM crops to feed the world's growing population.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I can then make an informed choice about what I am purchasing to consume
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I believe I have a right to know what is being represented to me as food
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I don't believe these products are beneficial
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because we should all have access to unmodified whole foods.

Non labelling takes away the consumers' right to choose. No one would dream of not labelling food that contains dairy or wheat for those who are lactose intolerant or coeliac. So why reduce others' freedom to choose?

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I want to be able to decide whether or not I buy that food. The choice lies with ME not the company or Government.

If labelling is removed, I reserve the right to take legal action against the relevant company and the Government should I develop any allergies or ill effects from eating GM foods.

I am afraid that GM crops are not well enough researched for me to trusty them. I am not willing to compromise my or my family's health for commercial purposes or profit making motives.

I value my right to choose what I eat. I would like to be able to make those decisions and refuse to be subjected to company greed. If they have nothing to hide and that GM food is safe then why is it that they are so afraid of labelling it? The government seem to support them.

I also elected a government that takes the health of the population into account and is representative of the people and not companies. The desire for government not to allow freedom of choice is very disturbing.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled so I can avoid buying GM foods. I don't support corporations controlling the food system. Farmers have the right to remain independent, GM free and not be contaminated with GM
- informative food labels that let people decide what to buy because most people don't have any idea what GMOs are and if they did they would not buy GMOs
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because we need to set an example to the rest of the country and the world.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because as GM farming expands it becomes tougher and tougher for non-GM farmers to make a living.

I can't believe it is becoming harder and harder for farmers who use natural practices. The environmental, health and human rights benefits of natural farming far out way the "claimed" yield and other benefits of GM farming. Labs are not going to save the world they are putting the food system in the control of huge companies. Independence for food producers and consumer choice are a fundamental part of freedom.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I want to be able to choose not to feed them to my family
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy to allow my personal choice
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there is not enough research about GM food and crops and the contamination from gm to non GM crops
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they should also be able to choose and not have crops contaminated by GM food from their neighbours

My family have severe food intolerances from years of artificial additives and chemicals added to our foods-how do we know what GM foods will cause down the track. I do not want my family exposed to GM food.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I eat organic food only when I can and then only if it's not GMO'd. I refuse to have microbial organisms in my own body that do not follow the rules of the natural world. It is unfair to force me to purchase food that may be GMO'd because an industry based on the false belief that placing the genes of one species into another one can be in any way beneficial to me as a human being of Earth. Money and industry lobbying cannot ever replace natural goodness of healthy food. I, and all others, deserve to know what we are purchasing and placing into our cellular body
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because - see above
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because the soil is its own micro-organism in the macrocosm of the natural system of Earth. Enough damage has already been caused to the soils of our home planet by pollution, destructive agricultural processes and the too hasty introduction of GMO crops into the environment. There is still no proof available that GMO foods do NOT HARM those who eat them. The soils are sacred and a primary element of life. Humans do not have the right to continue to modify them by introducing GMO'd plant debris into the soils of the planet. Humans must care for the soil and replenish it after removing nutrients and minerals in agricultural production rather than introduce further pollutants in the form of GMO food debris
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the farmers who don't grow GMO crops have the health and wellbeing of the planet and the populations of animals and humans at heart. The GMO industry goes against everything that is natural on the planet.

The GMO industry is not naturally oriented, it is false and it is dangerous. It is time to work with nature rather than against nature.

I write to you to state that it is my will that all GM foods are labelled accordingly and that there is a safeguard created to protect GM-free farmers (especially vital in light of the recent abhorrent treatment of Steve Marsh in the High Court).

We are continually reminded by government that we, as responsible citizens & consumers, should take responsibility for both our health & our choices. Without the aforementioned demands being met, however, we simply cannot do so.

The effects of GM-food are being documented - yet denied - which will inevitably unleash havoc upon our already crumbling healthcare system.

Please - for the sake of YOUR health & the health of YOUR CHILDREN - put people before profits. This decision will affect the lives of many generations to come & your families, too, will be amongst those suffering the effects of your decisions (should you so choose to deny our right to know what it is we are eating).

I write regarding the Productivity Commission's recommendations to remove GM food labels and for States to remove GM bans. I am strongly opposed to both recommendations. The GM industry needs to hide its products in our food to be consumed and to lie about the popularity, uptake and profitability of GM crops. In fact the opposite is true. Australia's virtual non-GM status makes our food crops highly desirable to those many countries in the world that have rejected GM food. Any moves in the opposite direction will be detrimental to our food export industries and to Australia's clean food reputation.

Firstly, all GM foods to be labelled because we have the right to know what our Agricultural industry is producing, purchasing and consuming.

Secondly, food labels that identify GM products assists me when deciding what to purchase because it provides information detailing GM components

Thirdly, my state government needs to be able to maintain its review powers regarding the release of GM crops long term effects on the human body are unknown.

Fourthly, my reasons as detailed in my submission above provide protection for farmers. Most of our farmers who remain GM-free are well versed that it is vital for the clean, green and safe image our Agricultural industry has in a global market to continue in order for the industry to reach its full potential.

I want all food containing genetically modified products to be labelled. Based on my understanding of GM and its impacts on both consumers and farmers, I believe this is my right.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because it is our right to decide whether we eat such food or not. Informative food labels let me decide what I want to buy. I want the Victorian state government to review the release of GM crops because it is not scientifically proven that they are safe and those who are against labelling need to see the other side has a point that needs to be respected. GM food have not been banned. Forcing us to eat them is unfair and protection GM farmers at the expense of those who remain GM-free.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because it is informative and so I know what I am buying
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I have a right to know what I'm eating
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because it benefits the health of all Australians
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they are doing the right thing.

The Productivity Commission (TPC) cannot take a short term view when it comes to GM technology.

It is not difficult to imagine that as more and more seeds are patented and owned by corporations, as is the aim of genetic technology, the price of food will increase dramatically (why own the seed if you cannot make lots of money out of doing so?). When the price of food increases people will need to spend more of their household budget on feeding themselves, thus leaving less money for other activities and private initiatives which drive the economy.

Second, if it is found over time, that consuming GM food creates different health problems, days off work due to illness, probably of a chronic rather than acute nature, will increase. Has TPC factored in this loss of productivity. The likelihood of increasing levels of chronic illness in the community due to eating GM foods is high given the mounting evidence of the importance of healthy gut microbiology to general health. Existing GM technology where, for example, Bt delta endotoxin is used in corn, without knowledge of the effects on the human gut microbiome, is an instance where long term consequences have not been considered. Also Round Up Ready GM technology used on soy and other crops has increased the use of a now WHO designated “probable carcinogen” in the food we eat, thus probably causing increases in cancer rates which will again lead to decreased productivity.

There are many more examples of likely long term effects of short term perspective used by TPC to make its assessment on GM technology. Since so much remains to be seen in what is definitely an experiment on human health, the Precautionary Principle needs to be applied to all decisions affecting further exposure to genetically engineered food.

In light of this, the rights of people to choose their health over corporate profits must be upheld via accurate labelling.

All GM foods should be labelled with clear information because we should have the right to know and to choose what we eat. Farmers should be able to supply what the consumers want — they need protection.

I am horrified to think that our government is thinking of allowing the release of GM crops when we already know from experience that they cannot be contained. We have a thriving organic foods industry which will be wiped out eventually if this is allowed to happen – we can’t stop the wind carrying seeds.

There is currently research being undertaken on the link between genetically modified mosquitoes and the zika virus – GMO’s have not been proven to be safe. We should be able to make our own decisions on what we put in our mouths.

Australia is in an ideal situation (being so far from the rest of the world) to keep GM crops away and keep our food safe. Rather than allowing GM crops, why not ban them and in the future I’m sure we will be exporting our safe food to other countries that have allowed GMOs? GM seeds come from the same company that gave us Agent Orange and Round Up ... need I say more??

I want protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because I AM ENTITLED TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I CHOOSE TO EAT & FEED MY FAMILY, & TO TAKE THAT AWAY IS A FORM OF DICTATORSHIP!

Red tape is hobbling the farming sector making it less competitive for smaller operators. However, to say that some regulation is simply not supported by the evidence, such as bans on genetically modified crops in some states, is deliberately misleading the public. The argument against genetically modified crops is simple. We have a Commonwealth Government Act that provides for the protection of the Australian environment. The selection of genetically modified crops effectively narrows the gene pool of crop diversity and therefore threatens the ecological sustainability of the systems that rely on diversity of organisms. Under the Commonwealth Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, the principles of ecologically sustainable development protects our environment and cites in Chapter 1, 3A (b) 'if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation' (EPBC Act 1999). We must continue to support, improve and integrate policies relating to the protection of the environment and not undermine the meanings imbedded within the existing legislation. This submission is a passionate one by an individual who is well aware of the onerous red tape affecting farmers and the need to measure productivity in order to make a living but it cannot be at the expense of our environment. Once we lose genetic diversity, species loss is inevitable and ecosystem collapse is a domino effect on Earth's natural resources. There is justification for all states and territories in Australia to impose their own bans on GMO. The Australian public had GMO delivered on a plate only a few years ago. There is still no evidence to support it. Lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation.

Contradictory policy statements in Draft report. In the section headed.. Regulatory inconsistencies across jurisdictions. the report argues..... "• animal welfare — inconsistent regulation makes it difficult to effectively inform and educate consumers, and inconsistent standards create uncertainty for industry." Yet Also from your draft report... "Some regulations lack a sound policy justification and should be removed." ie. Mandatory labelling for GMO. I feel as a consumer I have the right to know exactly what it is I am buying and feeding to my children. (ie "effectively inform and educate consumers" from your report) The entire point of manufacture and sale of goods is to supply the end consumer. Period! Not how easy it is for the manufacturer to create the products. With no consumer there is no manufacturer. Therefore, I think your " lack a sound policy" statement is short sighted at best. All GM foods should be labelled in a clear and simple way, then let the free market decide based on the merit of the product.

I was shocked to read yesterday in the Examiner that certain Australian citizens are attempting to lift/abolish the ban on GM foods in Tasmania. Stating all kinds of false and disinformation in regards to public safety and food quality. The only steps forward by the US have been to Hide the fact that their foods contain GMO products. I beg you to keep Tasmania GMO free so that our produce has the Label "100% GM Free other states can't say that making Tasmania an investment option for the likes of Russia and China who also have bans on GMO.

I am writing to you to let you know that I believe strongly that all GM foods should be clearly labelled. As a concerned consumer I should have the right to know what foods are GM and so select my food accordingly. Whether or not GM food is dangerous to me and my children

(though surely we should be exercising extreme caution given the uncertainty) I believe GM food crops are harmful to the environment as they allow farmers to use as much carcinogenic Roundup as they want. This will create accumulation in the soil and possible absorption by plants as well as increased run off into creeks and waterways. Furthermore I believe that farmers should be able to grow and supply food free of GM and benefit from this practice. They should not have their crops infected with GM plants nearby. And farmers should be allowed to harvest their plants for the seeds, a practice that would become illegal if they use GM. Multinational companies should not be allowed to control the seed bank of the world.

I have every right to know what I am eating and what my children are eating. I expect all GM products to be labelled as such.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I can then make an informed decision as to what to consume and - more importantly - what NOT to consume.

Informative food labels that let me decide what to buy are essential. If I cannot ascertain whether something contains GM or not, it will not be bought.

I believe that my state government needs to review the release of GM crops because it is an action that cannot be taken back, and full effects on health etc. are not known sufficiently. It also means organic food sources are contaminated without recourse for those growers. Let's be fair to and protect all industries and growers, even if they are considered 'niche'.

The name "Productivity Commission" is a joke. Our agricultural soils are losing all their productivity due to unsustainable, chemical-loaded farming practices.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I should have the right to decide that I do NOT want to eat Genetically modified food and to know that what I eat is NOT GM.

I want my state government to ban the release of GM crops because I believe that the true story of GM crops has been hidden from the general public. Why are there many countries in the world who have banned GM?

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because the people have the right to know what they are buying and what they are putting in their bodies.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because not everyone has proficiency in Latin and the food industry should not be allowed to change the name of a substance, which they do, just to keep people in the dark about what is being consumed. Case in point; corn syrup is now been given other names.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because the State has the ultimate right to monitor what is being bought and sold and a community of people should be able to agree not to have GM crops grown, bought or sold within its boundaries.

- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because GM crops are a virus that spread to farms and farmers that are trying to avoid them. Farmers have a right to do as they have always done, saved seeds from their own harvest to replant. GM is an insidious blight on many levels including pernicious attempts to make food patentable, thus seeking to extort money from every farmer in the world just because they've infected the world with their unnatural genetically modified and mutated seed.

I want food that contains gmos to be labelled as containing them.

I do not trust the claims that they are safe. I have never seen articles published in refereed science journals that attest to the safety of those products.

I do not want to consume them until scientific safety tests are readily available to the general public.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I am not convinced that genetically modified foods are safe and I have the right to know what is in the food I eat. I am concerned about my health and the health of my family and choose to buy all natural products as much as possible.

I hate having to check everything that I buy to see what additives have been included. I will continue to do so. Therefore clearly marked, informative food labels that let me decide what to buy are essential. I would like to see 'GM' clearly marked on the front of any foods containing anything genetically modified.

I ask my state government to review the release of GM crops because I do not see the need to have GM crops when we already have enough natural non modified crops which have be grown successfully and without any side effects for generations.

We need protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because genetically modified crops have been found to contaminate the surrounding farm lands wherever they are grown. This would seriously damage those that want to stay GM free. Our Australian farmers should be supported to continue to produce the good quality food that the majority of people want.

All GM foods should be labelled because people should have the right to know what they are eating.

There should be informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because sometimes GM food can unknowingly contain allergens.

Farmers have the right to grow non GM food and organic food without contamination, and rather than the organic farmers being sued for GM contamination, the organic farmer should be able to sue for compensation when their crops are contaminated by GM plants.

GM crops are a real threat to bio diversity and food production.

I want all GM foods labelled and I want a full and frank public discussion about the introduction of GM foods in Australia and the expansion of existing trials and I want to know what laws are in place to protect farmers, consumers and the environment. I don't even understand how you could not want to label these ingredients for what they are, this is just a

basic question of honesty / integrity - to suggest otherwise (no GM labels) suggests there is something sinister at play, if you think GM foods are so good, label them.

I prefer no genetically modified food in this country at all.

My first option is to BAN all GMOs on the basis of thousands of independent studies proving it's toxicity to human health, it's damage to soil microbia and the pesticide runoff associated with this awful practice.

I have been watching in horror at what has just taken place in USA through the manipulative interest of Monsanto (voted the most hated corporate on the planet) and Big Ag generally. I am now horrified to see the same agenda under foot here in our country. But on reflection, it doesn't surprise me - I should have expected it. We are puppets.

My second option is for mandatory labelling with full disclosure even if imported ingredients have GMOs. We would be wise to prevent importation of food ingredients unless they are appropriately labelled.

Labelling is essential for the obvious reason it would be illegal not to advise the public that a product may have side effects. I know Big Ag has paid for enough manipulated studies to make claims of safety. The notion of "generally regarded as safe" adopted in USA - Well really!!! while the hundreds of independent credible studies showing numerous issues to human health (eg organ damage thru to cancer), environmental damage, have been swept aside.

Surely Australia is better than that:-

Protect our people

Protect our Food

Protect our Farms

Protect our Farmers

BAN all GMOs as several other countries have.

Otherwise legislate Federally for mandatory labelling.

STOP POISONING US. We are already forced to use Fluoridated, chemical laden water.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I would prefer to know what I am eating is natural and unaltered.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I believe in a person's right to choose what they put in their bodies and to make a choice about the kind of environment they would like to have.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because I don't believe in the long-term that it is a safe option. Not just for people, but for the natural environment and the ecosystem of insects and small animals that live on farmed country.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because their livelihoods are at stake if they don't choose to use GM seeds. Also, GM seeds take the farmer's ability away

from sowing their own crops and make them reliant on buying seeds that don't regenerate, requiring them to become dependent on seed companies to supply them with seeds, taking away choice.

I have a right to know exactly what goes into or how the food I purchase is grown. At this stage I do not have the choice to determine if the food I purchase is GM free or not.

GM food or the contents of processed food with GM products included needs to be labelled so I can make an informed choice about what I put into my body and those of my grandchildren.

I also know of farmers who have lost their Certification of their produce because of contamination from adjacent GM crops. Bees, birds and wind are not able to discern fence or property boundaries.

Nothing is more important to me and my friends than what we eat and what we put into our bodies. That should be an informed choice that we make as individuals. That choice shouldn't be able to be over-ridden by large companies in their pursuit of profits.

I want ALL GM Foods to be labelled as a GM Food. This doesn't affect anyone else - they can still choose to buy and eat the GM Foods. This labelling just enables me to make the choice that I want to make - I want to avoid all GM Foods.

I don't accept the 'science' that suggests that GM Foods are safe. Companies like Monsanto have a long history of releasing reports from 'paid off' scientists. Look at the Tobacco Industry! There have been NO long term scientific studies that demonstrate that GM Foods are safe for human consumption over a lifetime.

Food label that inform me about what's in food makes it easier for me to shop and make the choices that I have a right to make. My decision to avoid GM Foods should reason enough for proper GM Food Labelling to be compulsory.

I'm also concerned about the difficulty that farmers who don't grow GM Crops have in maintaining their clean crops. The escape of GM Seeds is a real economic issue. Farmers who want to be 'clean environmentally' are still affected by their neighbours crops. But I want to support farmers who choose to grow non-GM Foods. Labelling is the only way that I'll be able to support these farmers. Australia has a big future in exporting 'clean' food - provided we stop this short term vision in wanting to stop GM Food Labelling.

As a human being, no I do not regard myself as a consumer, I feel entitled to know exactly what I am putting in my mouth by way of food. If people want to grow unnatural crops then they must be held totally responsible for any ongoing effects of the same, just as I am responsible if my dog bites someone. If one cares to read the little independent research done in this area, as opposed to the mass research funded by the manufacturers, it is quite apparent that there are real question marks around the safety of GMO and further that they offer no agricultural efficiencies over natural farming.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because informative food labels let me decide what product to purchase. Other ingredients are noted on food products why not GM products?

I feel strongly that all GM food needs to be labelled. I believe in our right to choose. The release of GM foods needs review and care taken to protect farmers from contamination of their unadulterated crops by GM farmers.

Some GM foods have already been scientifically proven to be carcinogenic, a more cautious approach to unleashing these (proven harmful) foods into our supply needs to be taken. In the very least people should maintain the right to opt out of GM in the foods they consume, or in the case of farmers, grow and sell.

This issue will have far reaching ramifications for humanity and all organisms, especially of the naturally occurring variety that has evolved over millennia. We expect and require that genetic codes of all species up to Monsanto's inception be respected and their integrity protected.

We have a right to exist unadulterated by genetic manipulation from genetically modified foods we never agreed to consume.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because it is my choice what I put into my body and that of my family. It is still our right to choose, isn't it?
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because it is a personal choice what we eat and use and we need to be informed of the products. How else can we do that if there is no labelling? We care about our health.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because what is proposed is just not right! Think of your own children and generations to come. Don't you care? You can save money but money can't save you!
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they actually care about you and me. Stop fighting them, we should be praising them and helping them anyway we can so they continue to do what they do. They are very precious and should be treated as such.

It is our right to know where our food comes from and how it is produced. Do the right thing instead of covering things up.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because people would like the information about foods they are consuming.

I want my state government to review the release of GM crops because a GM crop can spread to neighbouring farms and so that people who wish to grow GM free crops can then get their crop contaminated.

I want protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because many consumers are prepared to pay more for GM free foods and GM free crops are not as controlled by large multinational corporations as GM crops are. It will help maintain genetic diversity if some farmers are free to grow a variety of GM free crops. Genetic diversity may be needed to produce foods in the future if our climate or other environmental factors change.

We should have as much information as possible about the food we select and buy. If the companies have nothing to hide - if the product is as good as they say - then they have nothing to fear from truthful labelling.

I also think it is appalling that farmers lose their accreditation for organic products simply because their crops are infected with genetic material. Cleaning up the pollution of the crop should be the responsibility of the polluting agent.

I would prefer not to support these companies - but without labelling I cannot do this.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because it has been shown that our body distinguishes certain GE foods as not natural. Then the immune system becomes active and defends the body against this 'intrusion'. Thus it gets drained of energy for no good purpose. With a weaker immune system we people are more vulnerable to attack on our health which is not what I wish.

There is no uniform opinion on these matters and on other risks connected to Genetically Engineered crops. Considering this circumstance it must be left to people's individual choice whether they accept GE foods or not.

Information on the GE status of all food ingredients must therefore be consistently provided.

I want to know what I am eating, and therefore I want all GM foods to be labelled. I want to be able to make a decision what not to buy!

Please ensure that if there are to be GM foods grown in Australia (and I don't think they should) that they are labelled clearly as in a democracy we have the right to be informed especially with such a divisive area as this what we put in our bodies. Please respect the intelligence of the electorate We demand the right to know

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I want to know what I am feeding my family. We also happen to be vegetable farmers in Clyde, Victoria, and we would NEVER even entertain the idea to grow GM vegetables!

I would like all GM foods to be labelled because informative food labels let me know that my decision, and preference, to buy GM-free is honoured and respected.

Genetic modification of food is an element of the ingredients, and it is dishonest marketing if it is not stated.

Further, I believe that state governments should have the power to review the release of GM crops.

It is important to have GM labelling as it provides protection for farmers who wish to continue producing GM-free produce.

I am appalled to see the recommendations of the Productivity Commission to remove GM labelling for consumers. Consumers have a right to know what is in the food they are buying, and a right to know what has is GM.

As someone whose diet is designed for health reasons, and needs to avoid chemicals and additives, knowing exactly what is in my food and where it has come from is even more important. But besides that GM produce is an experiment and there is plenty of scientific evidence proving that it is not completely safe as the growers would like us to believe.

It is also critical that State and Federal measures be in force to review the release of GM crops because otherwise any GM crops could be grown anywhere and it would be impossible to know what was GM and what wasn't. The contamination factor also needs to be taken into account with adjoining properties. It is vital to protect farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the produce they produce must be able to be differentiated from the GM produce.

GM labelling is not red tape. It is a very necessary step in regulating the food industry. Consumers must know what is in the food they buy, the law stands that way for very good reason, to protect consumers, and our laws cannot be bought by business for profit.

I want GM food to be labelled to allow me to make a choice which food I buy.

As an Organic certified grower I would like protection from GM contamination so as I can continue to access lucrative export markets. These lucrative export markets will be lost if allow GM crops to be grown and contaminate other non GM crops.

I write to request that all GM foods be labelled and believe we should be working towards more stringent restrictions on the use of GM crops and ingredients in Australia, rather than slackening requirements.

I actively seek information on what products contain GM foods or are from GM sources to avoid purchase as I believe we do not understand the long term implications of GM foods on our health and our environment.

I request that the extent and detail of GM labelling in foods be increased and that the government does not change the laws to ban GM crops.

We should be working towards greater restrictions on the use of GM in our food chain within Australia, for the health and safety of our future generations.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I do not want to feed myself or my family food that I am not 100% sure of what is actually in it. This is a basic right for the consumer and should not be compromised.

It is important that the public are thoroughly informed through food labels that give us all the information we deserve to make healthy food choices.

I ask my state government to review the release of GM crops because it puts organic farmers under pressure when their neighbours crops could potentially affect the amazing work that our farmers do around the country. We only need to look at the volume of farmers committing suicide and under extreme stress overseas when GM was introduced.

This type of farming is not the way of the future. The health of all Australians is at stake here as is our rights to easily make informed and better choices by transparent labelling schemes.

My family and I very definitely want GM foods to be labelled so we don't inadvertently eat them. How can we choose if they aren't labelled.

I want all GM foods to be labelled so I can choose what my family eats.

I want informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because my family's health is the most precious thing we have.

I want the state government to review the release of GM crops because we have something called the precautionary principle which means we check that something is safe before we allow it to go in to general usage.

I want protection for farmers, particularly organic farmers who want to keep their certification which is impossible when their neighbours are growing GM crops.

I am very much of the opinion that genetically modified foods should be labelled. I strongly believe it is the right of consumers to know whether GM components are contained in the foods they buy.

I certainly understand why some corporations would claim GM labelling is unnecessary "red tape" since they well know that many consumers have a strong aversion to GM products being used in foods - so they prefer consumers to remain unaware and uninformed.

It is most certainly *not* the case that GM foods are "substantially equivalent" to non-GM foods, as has been asserted by the US Food and Drug Administration (under heavy lobbying pressure from GM corporations).

If GM foods are to be made available for purchase in Australia, it is incumbent upon Australian regulatory bodies to ensure that consumers are fully informed of what they are buying.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled so consumers can make informed choices about what to buy. This also allows market forces to dictate prices and potentially pass some of the cost savings made by this amazing technology on to the consumer.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because there is reason to believe some people would prefer to eat organically grown food. A perfect free market demands perfectly informed rational consumers.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because GM crops tend to come with highly toxic pesticides which have been known to cause all sorts of health risks people may not wish to expose themselves to.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the externalities of GM crops cannot be contained.

Over 90% of shoppers want easy to read labels that tell them whether their food has been genetically modified. It is our right to know what we are eating. Give the people what they want.

We also do not want GM crops to be released commercially in SA. Contamination is inevitable - and once it occurs, we can't go back. Farmers get a better price for non GM as the majority world does not wish to eat it.

Therefore it is common sense. Don't grow GM and when it is present in foods - label it.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because I have major food intolerances that are numbering more each day it seems. Something that is now going into previously tolerated foods is hurting me badly. Hospitalising me often until I got control of it. Now it's out of control again. I need far more informative labelling. I am vigilant about Low/No-Fodmaps dieting. Thankfully the research is keeping pace but my local - and only - supermarket isn't aware of the prevalence of dietary disasters amongst its customers although I must say, they do attempt to cover them all if brought to their attention.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because the results are not in to prove that GM foods are safe - I want to be able to decide for myself what I put in MY body.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I need to know the accurate sugar/fat/gmf content.
- my state government to review the release of GM crops because they should be looking out for my best interests NOT big business.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because they're not the ones messing with nature.

Why do organic foods need to be titled ORGANIC - it should be the other way around - non organic foods should be labelled in large letters NOT ORGANIC!!!!.

I want all GM foods to be labelled because information on food labels allows me to make an informed purchase. I choose not to eat GM products as I don't believe that we have sufficient evidence to ascertain their safety.

I want the state government to review the release of GM crops because they contaminate organic crops and GM produce hasn't been around long enough to ascertain how safe they are.

Farmers need our support as many of them do not agree with GM crops and want the right to remain free of pressure to plant them. Farmers have been collecting seeds and practicing agricultural modifications for centuries. This is their right and our right, as consumers, to have access to uncontaminated products. Mixing genes from different species, including animals, into their crops is not what farmers do. This is purely an economic argument made by companies that stand to gain greatly from GM crops.

I strongly oppose GM crops being planted. Any foods that are genetically modified must be labelled appropriately so that consumers are able to make informed purchases.

Please offer protection to consumers who have concerns regarding the long-term safety of genetically modified foods. Independent, laboratory studies on rats/mice have shown concerning results in relation to the effect of certain genetically modified foods on organ development/damage, fertility and the promotion of allergies/allergic reactions. Until independent studies can be certain that these patented seeds/foods are safe, please go the way of Switzerland and other enlightened countries and take a cautious approach. GM foods may very well be the cigarettes of our generation. Like the tobacco industry, we cannot rely on the industry to police itself.

I am just one of many Australians who do not want to eat GM foods. We want our choice to not eat GM foods to be respected without barriers to this choice. We actively seek out and pay higher prices for organic produce. The numbers of us are growing because of the knowledge that is now coming to light of the dangers of GMOs.

We do not want biodiversity harmed in Australia by GMO crops.

We do not want the reputation of Australia as a “safe producer” ruined by GMO produce.

We want organic soil and farmers protected.

We do not want GMO food in Australia as it makes eating healthy and safe food impossible outside of home cooking. Children who cannot differentiate between healthy and unhealthy foods should not be forced to eat GMO foods. People who lack intelligence should not be forced to eat GMO foods because they are uninformed of the dangers of GMOs.

Labelling GMO foods should be the bare minimum but it is not enough to protect the underprivileged in Australia from sub-par food.

GMOs vs non-GMOs should not be a price choice that puts only the higher classes at an advantage.

I believe it is VERY important that we know where our food comes from and how it is grown. Consumers should have the right to choose what is best for the world and our health.

Releasing GMOs into the environment means we can never again choose non-GM organic foods.

Australia must stand firm on this so our farmers can get the best prices world-wide and we who eat the food know we are supporting agriculture that does the least harm.

This is a high-priority for me and my family.

I want:

- all GM foods to be labelled because I don't feel these foods have been adequately or independently tested to prove that they are safe over the long term and I want to know if a product has GM content before I buy.
- informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I want to know what the food I buy for myself and my family contains.

- my state government to review the release of GM crops because there are inadequate checks and balances in place to avoid contamination from GM crops and, indeed, I am unsure that it is even possible to contain them. Additionally, GM crops have failed to provide the huge benefits they were supposed to, requiring vast amounts of chemicals for little improvement in yields. It seems to be only the huge influence of multinational GM companies that has ensured GM cropping continues.
- protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because of the above, and also because we have a huge opportunity in Australia, due to our isolation, to maintain a clean, green, GM free image and capture the rapidly growing domestic and international markets for the higher priced NON GM produce. If we continue to allow GM crops, our farmers and our economy will lose out.

Consumers simply do not want GM foods and such foods require labelling so that people have the choice. It is immoral and unethical to kowtow to multinational companies whose only thought is profit above all else, rather than care for the rights and best interests of the Australian people.