



**Media Release  
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### **Choice for South Australian canola growers denied**

The Australian Oilseeds Federation's (AOF) President, Robert Green, said that Friday's decision by the South Australian Government on GM canola was very disappointing and would deny growers in that state the opportunity to participate in the potential benefits of this technology.

The decision is out of step with the industry which has clearly demonstrated the ability to deliver market choice with GM canola, and the recommendations of the South Australian GM Crops Advisory Committee and recent independent reviews in Victoria and NSW.

"The South Australian Government has raised concerns regarding the market impacts of GM canola, however, the industry and a range of independent experts have demonstrated that Australia would not lose access to non GM markets and that there is no widespread premium for GM canola," said Mr Green.

"We believe that the Government has misinterpreted market dynamics resulting from drought and other factors."

"It is also disappointing that there will now be an inconsistent framework across the east coast," said Mr Green.

"The canola industry has suffered two years of adverse conditions, and with a very positive price outlook for the coming season, access to GM canola would have provided the Australian canola industry with another option to help it maintain, and improve, its competitiveness.

"The decision also denies farmers the choice to adopt a technology that can deliver significant environmental benefits for the community."

AOF supported the removal of the moratorium on basis that it would deliver market choice; and consumers who wish to purchase non-GM canola would be assured that the Australian industry had the capacity to deliver this choice.

The industry has the capability to provide segregation of GM and non GM crops and this has already been extensively documented in the industry's Delivering Market Choice documents.

The Australian grains industry's experience and capacity to deliver choice across the supply chain is based on the comprehensive and world-class protocols and processes that already operate.

AOF will actively participate in the public consultation period. "We do not see that there is any reason for the moratorium to remain," said Mr Green.

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