



## MEDIA RELEASE

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Date: 23 December 2008

### **GGA supports WA GM Canola trials**

Grain Growers Association (GGA) has today welcomed the decision by the Western Australian Government to allow commercial-size trials of GM canola to go ahead in 2009.

GGA Chairman John Eastburn said GM technology provided enormous benefits across a number of crops and the grains industry is well placed to deliver these benefits.

“It is important that growers have access to GM technology and the benefits it brings. The decision by the WA Government to trial GM canola crops will take that access one step further.

“There are regulations, standards and protocols in place along the supply chain to govern the production and handling of GM canola.

“In 2008 we’ve seen the first commercially grown crops of GM Canola in NSW and Victoria and their harvest proved that these established systems and protocols are very effective in operation,” Mr Eastburn said.

GM technology assists farmers to be more environmentally sustainable with a wider range of options for weed and pest control and in the future will assist with adapting to climate change, providing greater food security and providing consumers with health and food quality benefits.

GGA was a signatory to the 2007 national statement *Delivering Market Choice with GM Canola*, where the grains industry committed to delivering choice and noted that the industry has the protocols and processes available to meet market requirements for GM Canola.

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