

MONSANTO



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MEDIA RELEASE

GM canola decision good for growers and the WA environment

Melbourne (Dec. 23, 2008) – Monsanto Australia welcomes the Western Australian Government's decision to give the go ahead for a limited release of GM canola to be grown in WA.

The decision allows up to 1000 hectares of GM canola to be planted in the 2009 growing season. Roundup Ready canola has been available to Eastern state growers since the NSW and Victorian State Governments changed their policies in early 2008.

Tony May, Monsanto Canola Business Lead said, "We look forward to working with the WA grains industry, our seed partners and the WA Government to ensure this limited commercial release is managed according to industry standards".

"Monsanto's Roundup Ready canola offers farmers cleaner and greener technology that is already used successfully in many countries around the world. Now WA growers will have the opportunity to try it for themselves", he said.

"Consumers are looking for food that is produced in a sustainable way, with more yield grown with fewer inputs and a better outcome for farmers, GM canola technology can deliver all three of these objectives", said Tony May.

Growers in Victoria and NSW have embraced the technology and list the benefits of using Roundup Ready® canola as greater yields, fewer sprays and reduced environmental impacts. Over two thirds of these growers have completed harvest and grain deliveries, while maintaining the integrity of the supply chain and choice for grain consumers.

The same Roundup Ready canola technology has been available to Canadian canola farmers, WA grower's main competitors on international export markets since 1996.

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