



## Media Release

Thursday 14 July 2011

### GRAIN PRODUCERS SLAM GREENPEACE STUNT

Australian Grain Producers have today called for Greenpeace to be reprimanded and appropriate action taken, following the destruction of CSIRO wheat field trials in Canberra.

"The destruction of world class science is absolutely despicable. Attacking the research that supports Australian farmers is the same as attacking Australian farmers and generally we are sick of it. It is irresponsible, unethical and in this case illegal" said Mr Peter Mailler, Chairman, Grain Producers Australia.

Mr Mailler said ."CSIRO is an iconic organisation, responsible for many of the agricultural advancements that enable Australian farmers to produce the cleanest, safest and healthiest food and fibre that feeds and clothes hundreds of millions of people across the globe every year "

"GM wheat is seven to ten years away, CSIRO has been responsibly conducting GM wheat field trials at this site for fourteen years. Today's Greenpeace actions are totally unacceptable," he said.

"Plant science and research and development are critical to the future of our industry," said Mr Andrew Weidemann, R&D spokesperson, Grain Producers Australia.

"Australian farmers are highly innovative and have continued to adapt to changes in climate, customer requirements and the global operating environment, but we cannot achieve ongoing production without new tools and technologies," he said.

"Gene technology is a proven and safe plant science. GM crops have been grown, traded and consumed around the world for fourteen years, delivering significant agronomic, environmental and sustainable outcomes," he said.

"Today's illegal Greenpeace activity has once and for all proven what many of us have feared for quite some time - Greenpeace is not interested in green outcomes or sustainable agriculture and food production. This is purely a non-factual, high profile fund raiser and Australian consumers need to be aware of this," said Mr Weidemann.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Pete Mailler 0427 265 707

Andrew Weidemann 0428 504 544