

Subject: GMO moratorium
Date: Friday, 26 April 2019 5:20:25 PM

Dear Madams / Sirs,

It just came to my attention the opportunity to express my feedback about the current GMO moratorium which expires on the 16 November 2019.

Unfortunately there not much time before 5pm for an elaborate expression but I appreciate the opportunity!

My partner and I have moved from Switzerland to Australia nearly 4 years ago and have since bought around 10 acres of land in near Marion Bay in Tasmania with the intent of growing organic produce. We were attracted by Tasmania's pristine beauty and green image and feel it is totally justified.

One of the points of extreme positive consideration for us was the moratorium on GMO's.

As customers, we absolute don't consume anything that might be contaminated with GMO's and are happy to pay a premium for produce we trust to be GMO free. We will hold this decision to the extent of our ability, even if that means importing out food from overseas sources we can trust,if something was to change in Tasmania. It would definitely impact how we would interact with the agricultural sector in Tasmania.

I have personally been involved with the organic food market in Switzerland for 14 years before moving to Australia and can see how the demand keeps rising , with billions of additional Swiss Francs being spent annually on certified organic and GMO free products.

There is a massive demand and of course a very strong buying power, fueled by discerning customers that are driving business to meet that demand and expand their profits in the profit. As a future business, it is absolutely clear that that is the way to go. If Tasmania no longer has a moratorium on GMO's and they are introduced, there is no going back and Tasmania's image will definitely be lost internationally.

I notice for example how more and more discerning buying from overseas countries like the USA are coming to Tasmania to inspect cattle and Tasmania's environment and how it reflects on the quality of the produce. They are ready to pay a premium price because they will be getting a quality they can't achieve in their country where GMO's are ubiquitous.

It is 16.55 so I have no choice but to cut my thoughts short but do urge you to consider the irreversible effect that removing the moratorium on GMO's would have for Tasmania and all it's growers.

Thank you for your support and best regards
Carlos Marques