

**Subject:** submission in favour to extend the GMO moratorium in Tasmania  
**Date:** Tuesday, 23 April 2019 1:30:52 PM

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My name is Ute Mueller. I am a small Bio-dynamic farmer.

I am in favour to extent the existing moratorium on GMOs including the newer versions of the technology for the following reasons:

\* Tasmania has a vibrant and lucrative organic industry which would suffer extremely by the introduction of GMOs to the state.

Organic certification includes a zero tolerance of GMOs.

By nature GMOs are prone to contaminate neighbouring properties. A valid example is the severe contamination in this state, which happened about 25 years ago, when trials were conducted on behalf of Syngenta, before the industry was regulated.

The State Government has spent a lot of money since trying to eradicate the GMO crops, and to my knowledge the problem still exists.

\* In the last year there have been six additional dairy farms in the North West of the state certified organic with a substantial increase in revenue.

\* Other primary producers that would be hard hit are fruit growers, including wine growers and beekeepers. They all get a premium for their organic produce.

\* Due to the non-existence of GMOs in the State the whole of the primary industry has a very good reputation world-wide, which would be severely damaged by the introduction of GMOs.

\* Consumers do not want to eat products that include GMOs. They are prepared to pay a premium if they can be sure to buy clean food.

\* So far the GMO industry has not fulfilled any of their big promises, like drought and salt tolerance. All they have produced are herbicide resistant crops or those with an inbuilt pesticide.

Yields have not been increased in the long term and 'feeding the world' is just an emotional gimmick. So far there has been enough food produced 'to feed the world' anyway. The fact that so many people stay hungry is due to social factors, wars and inadequate distribution.

To summarise, Tasmania is well positioned in the world market with its 'clean green' image to achieve top prices for its primary industry products as well as to attract increasing numbers of visitors that want to spend their holidays in a mainly clean environment. The moratorium on GMOs has served this State very well so far and has allowed a vital organic industry to be established and to expand.

Ute Mueller

