



Report by the South Australian Farmers' Federation (SAFF)



In response to:

The Regional Agricultural Biotechnology Forums Held in South Australia in February 2008

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**REPORT ON THE REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY FORUMS HELD
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA IN FEBRUARY 2008**

With financial support from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), the South Australian Farmers' Federation (SAFF) organised four GM Information Forums in South Australia from 25 to 28 February, 2008.

These Forums followed the announcement from the South Australian Government on 8 February that the GM moratorium would continue (Attachment 1: Media Release from SA Government).

When planning these Forums, it had been anticipated that a decision on the GM moratorium would be made well in advance of these. Given that decisions had already been made in Victoria and New South Wales to allow the growing of GM canola, it had been anticipated that there was likely to be a similar decision in South Australia, and initially it was felt that the Forums would be able to offer details to farmers so that they could make decisions on whether to grow GM canola.

The decision of the State Government meant that this focus was not as relevant, and while there was some suggestion that the Forums should not go ahead, it was decided that this was still an opportunity to provide information about GM crops. SAFF promoted the Forums using this approach (Attachment 2: Media Release from SAFF plus Media Interviews).

Unfortunately the State Government decision, and a consequent delay in beginning an advertising campaign, meant there was not an ideal promotion of the Forums and as a result the attendances were not as high as expected when planning first started.

The overall total attendance at the four Forums was just over 100. However to counteract this low figure, there was media in attendance which generated media stories and interest, particularly an interview with Scott Day, the Canadian farmer who spoke at the Forums and which was played over four consecutive days (Attachment 3: Interviews with Scott Day).

At the end of these Forums, those attending were asked to complete an evaluation form. This evaluation showed that while the Forums were very successful in increasing the knowledge of those attending, only about half felt there was sufficient, credible information. Obviously many who attended had wanted to still hear about the pros and cons on GM technology, while the focus had deliberately been put on trying to provide information to assist farmers in their decision-making on whether to grow GM crops (when this is allowed in South Australia). 30% of those attending indicated they will grow GM crops as soon as seed is available, with a further 16% indicating they may sometime in the future.

In facilitating the GM Information Forums, SAFF wishes to acknowledge:

- DAFF and the funding from the Australian Government,
- the SAFF representatives who were involved, particularly those who chaired the Forums, and particularly
- the speakers who freely gave their time to speak at these Forums.

The speakers were Trevor Garnett/Andrew Jacobs from the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics, Dave Hubbard from PIRSA, Jeanette Marszal/Geoff Masters from ABB Grain Ltd Chris Preston from the University of Adelaide, and Scott Day, Canadian farmer. Their knowledge and enthusiasm, ability to adjust presentations according to time constraints and the needs of attendees, willingness to answer questions and participate in debate, plus their support with all aspects in running these Forums ensured that the Forums were successful

1. **Details on the GM Information Forums**

1.1 Program

Four Locations across South Australia ~ February 25 - 28

- * Keith Hotel ~ February 25 1.00 to 4.00 pm
- * Kadina Recreation Centre ~ February 26 2.30 to 5.00 pm
Part of Northern YP Grower Updates (9.00 am to 5.00 pm)
- * Lock Football Club ~ February 27 2.00 to 5.00 pm
- * Nuriootpa Vine Inn ~ February 28 7.00 to 10.00 pm

1.2 Forum format

While there was some variation for each Forum (particularly at Kadina, where the Forum was part of the Northern YP Grower Updates), the general format was –

Welcome and house-keeping (10 minutes)

SAFF Board member introduced SAFF representative to chair the Forum.

(Introduction from Julie Lloyd at Keith)

(Chairs were Jeff Arney at Keith, Greg Schulz at Kadina,

Lyn Cummins at Lock and Wayne Cornish at Nuriootpa)

Overview of agricultural biotechnology (20 minutes)

Andrew Jacobs, Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics

(Trevor Garnett at Keith, Andrew at the other three)

Regulation of GM crops in South Australia (20 minutes)

David Hubbard, Primary Industries and Resources South Australia

Segregation and co-existence of GM and non-GM crops (20 minutes)

Geoff Masters, Client Services, ABB Grain Ltd.

(Jeanette Marzal at Keith, Geoff at the other three)

Agronomic cost/benefit analyses of GM crops (20 minutes)

Chris Preston, Lecturer Plant and Food Science, University of Adelaide

Break (15 minutes)

On ground experience with GM crops (45 minutes)

Scott Day, Canadian farmer

Questions and discussion and Evaluation (30 minutes)

Close

Total time 3hours

1.3 Attendances

	Attendance	Evaluations
Keith	21	14
Kadina	38	6
Lock	26	15
Nuriootpa	19	9
Total	104	44

With the duration of the Forums being three hours, a number of those attending left before the end of the Forums. Even though the evaluation forms were distributed during the breaks, very few of those who left early completed the evaluations. This was particularly a problem at Kadina where most had been attending the Northern YP Grower Update, with the GM Information Forum the final part of the day's program.

1.4 Presentations

For all five speakers at each Forum, there were PowerPoint presentations. These can be provided on request.

2. Details on the Speakers

Overview of agricultural biotechnology

Trevor Garnett\Andrew Jacobs, Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics (ACPGF)

Dr Trevor Garnett

Following undergraduate studies at the University of Adelaide Trevor travelled to Tasmania where he obtained a PhD in plant physiology from the University of Tasmania, graduating in 1996 (Thesis: Ammonium and nitrate uptake by *Eucalyptus nitens*). In 1997 he returned to Adelaide as a post-doc in Plant Science at the University of Adelaide investigating micronutrient nutrition of wheat. At the beginning of 2001 he took up a contract lecturing position teaching plant nutrition in the Faculty of Agriculture. From March 2001 until January 2006 Trevor held a position with the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) where he managed an ACIAR funded project collaborating with China and Laos. The main aim of this project is to find and develop lucernes with tolerance to abiotic stress. Since January 2006 he has been a Research Fellow at the ACPFG, managing the Nitrogen Use Efficiency program. The core of this program is a collaborative project with DuPont Pioneer in the US aimed at increasing the nitrogen use efficiency of cereals. This project will identify nitrogen-linked traits in cereals through genetic, physiological and electrophysiological analysis of existing lines showing variation in NUE with particular focus on characterizing mechanisms controlling accumulation, storage and redistribution of inorganic and organic nitrogen. This research should lead to novel discoveries in nitrogen-linked traits in cereals and eventuate in improved NUE cereal lines in future genetic enhancement programs

Dr Andrew Jacobs

Andrew has a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours from the Flinders University of South Australia. His Honours research project was conducted at the Flinders Medical Centre where he investigated the use of a transgenic mouse model for mutation studies. Dr Jacobs then worked for CSIRO Plant Industry for 3.5 years where he investigated plant pathogen interactions in grapevine before he took up a PhD scholarship at the University of Adelaide. During his PhD studies he isolated the gene responsible for the formation of callose at sites of fungal infection in Arabidopsis leaves and spent six months characterising the effects of mutations in this gene at the Max-Planck-Institute for Plant breeding research in Cologne. Dr Jacobs took up a Research Fellow position at the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics in 2003 and leads the Enabling Technologies group and Gene Analysis team. His current research projects are focussed upon the genes involved in abiotic stress tolerance and perception with an emphasis on salinity tolerance and developing improved tools and greater resources for the analysis of these genes. He has a several honours and PhD students working in the area of abiotic stress tolerance and has published a number of articles in peer reviewed journals. He also has a number of patents in the area of biotechnology

Regulation of GM crops in South Australia

David Hubbard, Primary Industries and Resources South Australia

David Hubbard is a Business and Innovation Consultant, based in Adelaide and working for Rural Solutions SA a consultancy business servicing the rural community, primary producers and small to medium organizations across the State. David consults in the areas of innovation, facilitation, business and succession plans. He has work within the sheep and alpaca research and as a Property management planning officer at Murray Bridge. More recently he has been writing business plans for the drought recovery program.

Segregation and co-existence of GM and non-GM crops

Geoff Masters, Client Services, ABB Grain Ltd.

(Jeanette Marzal at Keith, Geoff at the other three)

Jeanette Marszal

Jeanette Marszal is the Technical Services Manager, Storage and Handling in ABB Grain Ltd. Jeanette has worked in technical area in the grain industry since 1985. She is currently a member of the NACMA standards committee, Pulse Australia standards committee, Pulse SA Chair, and National Standards Commission committee for Grain Measurement. Jeanette is responsible for the implementation of specifications, standards and procedures to commodity quality standards for ABB National Supply Chain.

Geoff Masters

Geoff Masters is the Quality & Technical Services Manager with ABB Grain Limited. He graduate from Roseworthy Agricultural College in 1978 and after 9 months working in Alberta, Canada, Geoff started as a field officer with AWB. After a 3 year stint he joined AQIS working in the grains export area. He then joined SACBH in 1993, working on the implementation of an accredited Quality Management System. Since then he has held various positions with ABB (previously SACBH and AusBulk) including Quality Services Manger, Client Services Manager, Client & Quality Services Manager and now Quality & Technical Services Manager. In his current role he is responsible for the management and delivery of Grain Quality Services, Laboratory and Technical Services, Grain Hygiene & Pest Control and Quality Assurance & Systems across ABB Grain Ltd. He is also responsible for the development of policy and relationships for ABB in a number of quality related areas, including GM grains, AQIS, Biosecurity Australia and Free Trade Agreements.

In respect to GM grains, he has been involved with the AOF Gene technology Grains Committee, the Australian Bulk Handling Association GM Working Group and the 2006 SA GM Forum Roadshow. With Mr David Thomas, in July 2003 he represented AusBulk at submissions to the SA Government Select Committee on Genetically Modified Organisms. In 2005, he worked with the Oil Seed Rape (OSR) Response Team that coordinated the industry response to the detection of the Topas 19/2 gene in Australian Canola. Within ABB, he has been responsible for the development and review of the procedures for the segregation and handling grains as a result of the introduction of GM crops, including the development of ABB's submissions in respect to the various reviews of the GM crop moratoriums.

Agronomic cost/benefit analyses of GM crops

Chris Preston, Lecturer Plant and Food Science, University of Adelaide

Dr Christopher Preston is a Program Leader for the Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management and Head of the Discipline Plant & Food Science in the School of Agriculture at the University of Adelaide. Dr Preston is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Agriculture & Wine at the University of Adelaide and an internationally renowned researcher on herbicide resistance in weeds. His research on behalf of and with grain farmers in southern Australia has given a perspective on the use of herbicide tolerant crops in farming systems. He has travelled extensively in North America and other parts of the world and seen herbicide tolerant and other biotech crops used. Dr Preston's research interests cover a range of weed management issues. These include the evolution, biochemical mechanisms of herbicide resistant weeds, gene flow from herbicide tolerant crops and its implications for farm management, risk assessment for weeds and herbicide tolerant crops and patterns of genetic diversity in weed populations.

On ground experience with GM crops

Scott Day, Canadian farmer

Scott Day was born and raised on the family farm at Dand, Manitoba, an hour southwest of Brandon, Manitoba, the fifth generation in his family to farm in the area. The farm is 40 km from the USA and 70kms from Saskatchewan right in the heart of the Prairies. He lives near the exact centre of North America, in one of the harshest climates anywhere that food is produced. He currently farms there with his parents and lives in nearby Deloraine with his wife Ann and 12 year old daughter Alex. He received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from the U of M in 1987. He has had agricultural work experience in Europe (Ireland), Ukraine (2000) and Australia (1987-88), and he was a Provincial Ag Rep for Southwest Manitoba from 1989 - 2005. In 2005 Scott became the new Diversification Specialist for Manitoba Agriculture in Southwest Manitoba. His new job focuses on innovative ideas and opportunities for Prairie Farmers with an emphasis on the agronomics of zero till and sustainable production. With this position he also manages an applied research farm to help implement some of these goals. Scott is one of the coordinators of Ag Days – held each January in Brandon, Manitoba. It is the largest indoor Ag show in Canada. In 1999, Scott was named Canadian 0-Till farmer of the Year by the Manitoba-North Dakota 0-Till Farmer's Association. His family was also named Conservation Farm Family of the Year in 1999 by the Local Conservation District. Their family farm consists of 1600 acres of a wide variety of crops, all 0-till for at least the past 14 years. After 45 years the Day Family closed the doors on their small Hog feeder operation in Dec '07. In 2004 and in 2006 Scott travelled to Australia to talk about Canadian Prairie farming systems and share his experiences with GMO technology, and to learn from Australians. He is looking forward to doing the same in 2008.

3. Summaries of Statistics from Evaluation Forms

Very similar evaluation forms were used to those for the GM Forum Roadshow held across South Australia in September 2006. This has enabled a comparison of the results of the evaluations from both events. The relevant figures from the 2006 Roadshow are shown in square brackets []. The report of the 2006 GM Forum Roadshow can be found at <http://www.saff.com.au/images/stories/pdf/news/heatherbaldock.pdf>.

3.1 The Success of the GM Information Forums ~ Summarised Results

Attendance at the GM Information Forums tallied 104 across the four venues. Unfortunately only 44 completed evaluation forms were received.

Those in attendance were asked to rate their GM knowledge and understanding prior to the GM Information Forums and again at the conclusion.

Figures 1a and 1b illustrate that the Forums were very successful in increasing people’s knowledge, with the above average rating increasing from 34% to 64% [21% to 55%], and the low rating decreasing from 7% to 0 [21% to 2%].

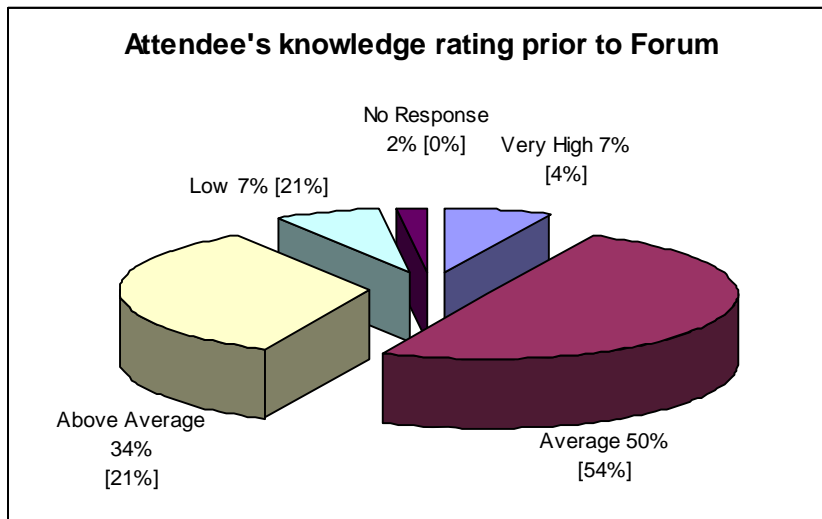


Figure 1a: Knowledge Rating Before

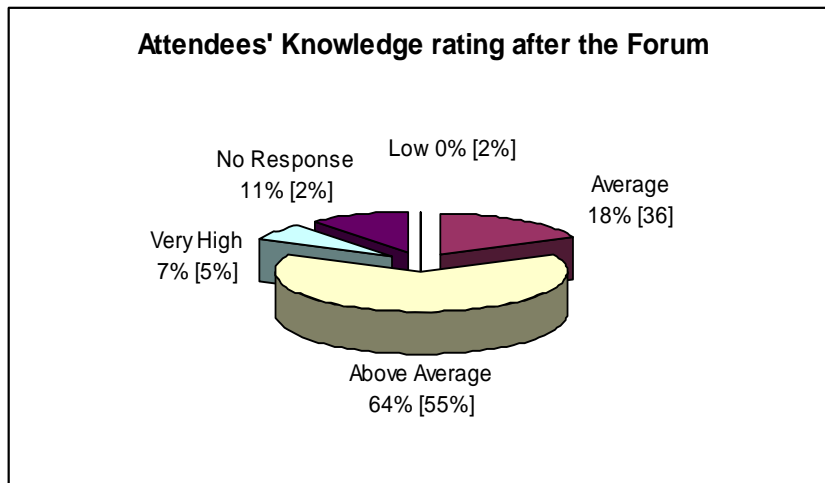


Figure 1b: Knowledge Rating After

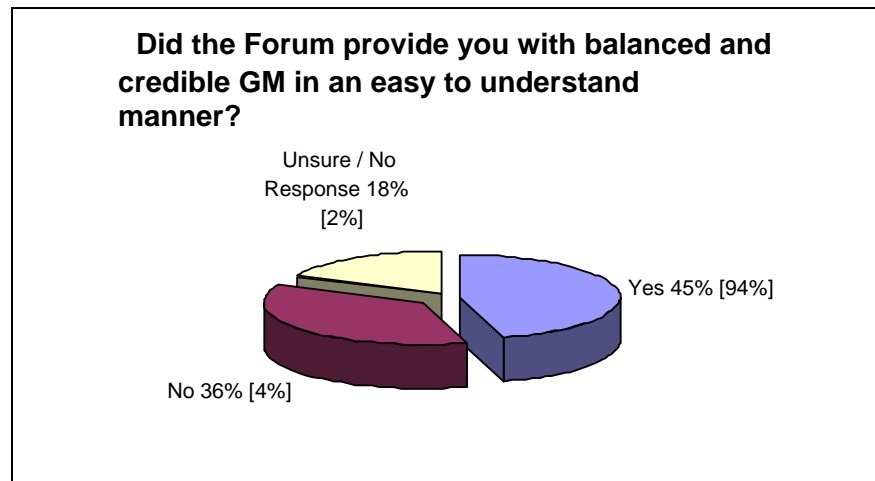


Figure 2

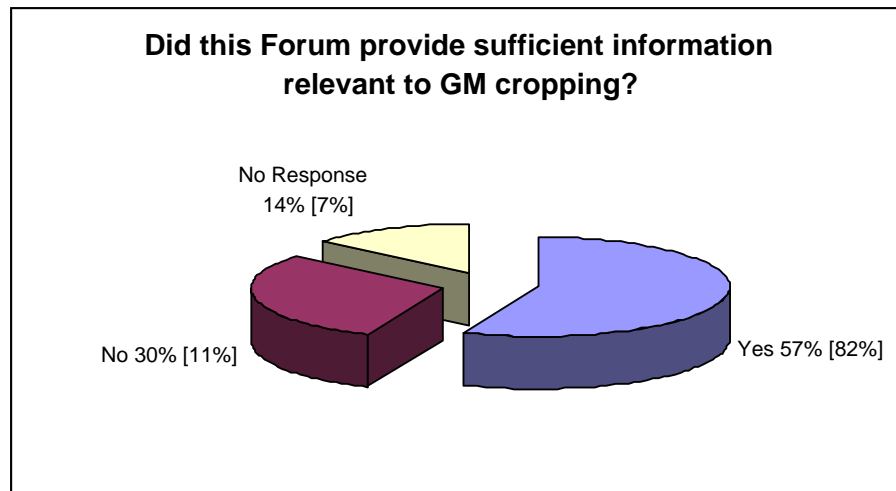


Figure 3

Attendees were also invited to rate the credibility and content of the Forums. 45% [94%] of respondents rated the Forums as providing balanced and credible information (Figure 2).

57% [82%] thought the Forums provided sufficient relevant information about GM cropping (Figure 3).

Of the 11% (Figure 3) who did not believe the Forums provided enough information about GM cropping, over half felt the Forums were one-sided and not balanced, while other comments received included need for details on regulations, health contamination, and litigation, did not deal with Federal issues, and only discussed canola.

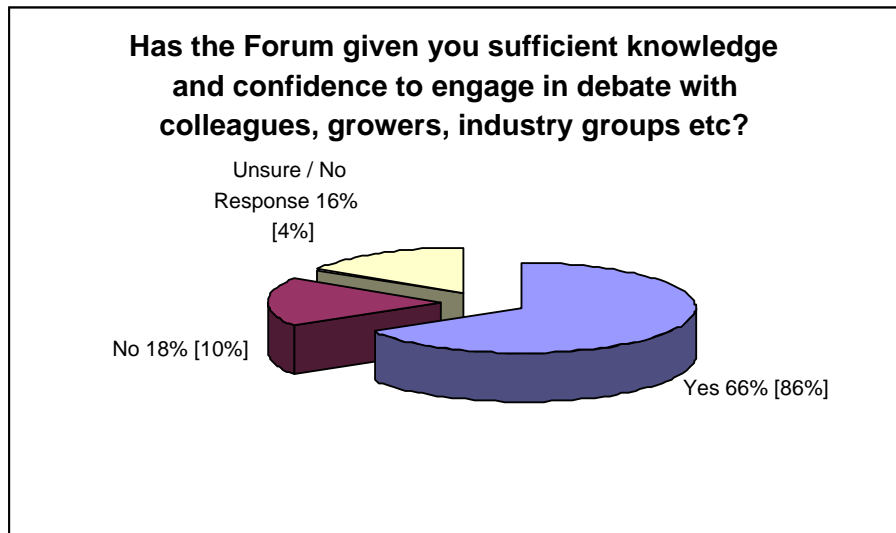


Figure 4

66% [86%] felt the Forums had given them sufficient knowledge and confidence to participate in debate with colleagues, growers, industry groups etc, while 18% [10%] did not agree, and the remaining 16% [4%] were either unsure or didn't respond to the question (Figure 4).

3.2 Useful Data for Industry ~ Summarised Results

Farmers represented the highest occupation of attendees at 88% [69%]; with others attending including retired farmers, agronomist/consultant, agri-business, teacher and student.

75% [87%] of evaluation respondents believe that GM crops have the potential to deliver benefits (Figure 5).

Of these, 33% [42%] believe these benefits will be agronomic, 22% [24%] see benefits as increased yields and economic returns, 25% [14%] flagged reduced use of chemicals and 11% [10%] identified health benefits.

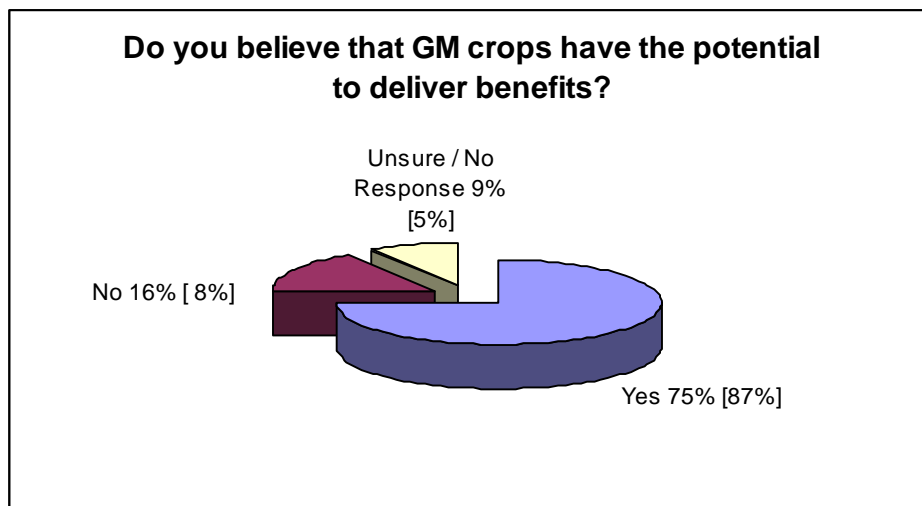


Figure 5

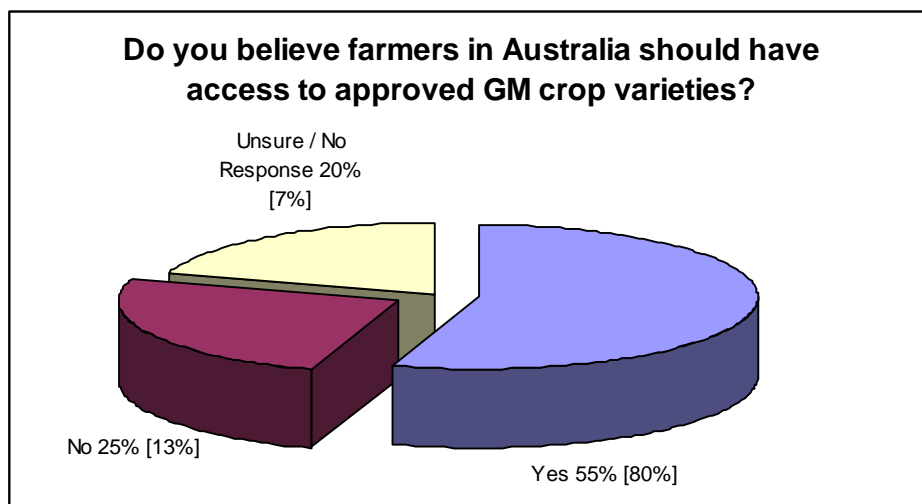


Figure 6

55% [80%] of respondents believed that access to approved GM crop varieties for Australian farmers is desired (Figure 6), with some of the reasons given that farmers need a choice on what they can grow, farmers need to have access to new varieties which have been bred and improved for economic growth, and to compete in overseas markets.

25% [13%] opposed access, arguing there are still so many unanswered questions, non-GM growers should have legal protection if they want to remain non-GM, and there are enough varieties now.

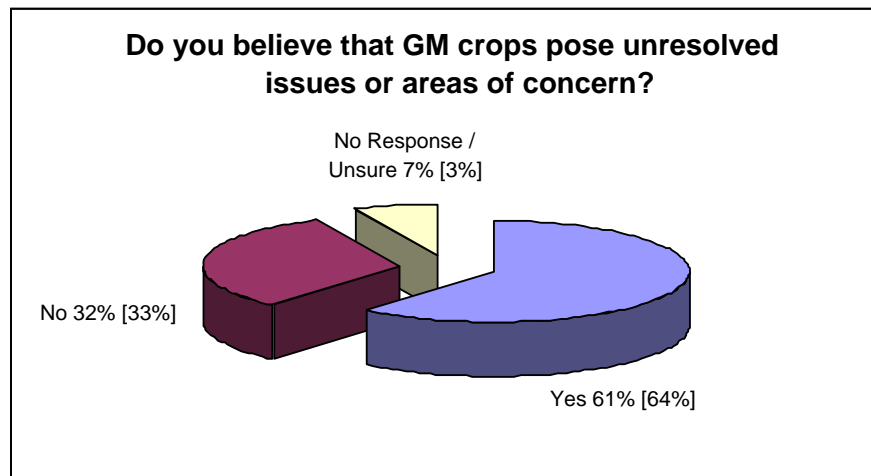


Figure 7

There is still a significant number aware of unresolved issues and areas of concern, with 61% [64%] acknowledging this (Figure 7). Main areas of concern were markets and consumer demand, weed and chemical resistance, and lack of knowledge and understanding.

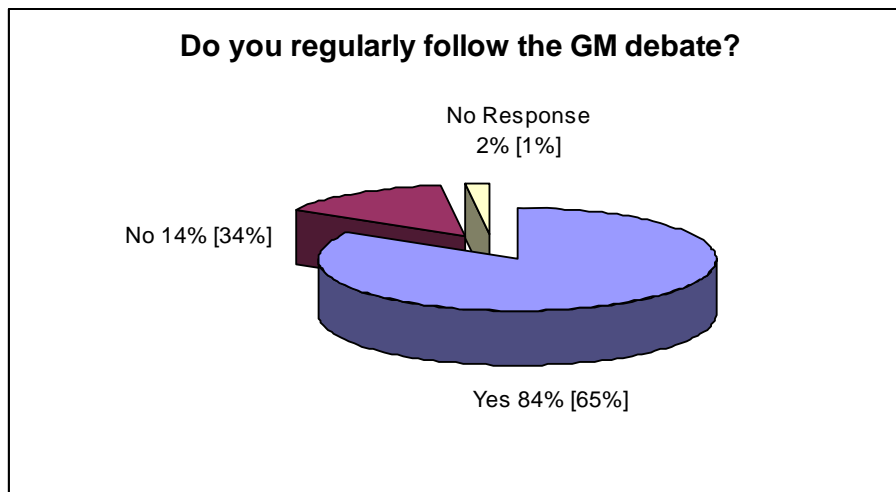


Figure 8

84% [65%] indicated that they followed the GM debate (Figure 8).

At 26% [30%] the media is clearly the main source of information about GMs, showing how much influence this source of information has over people's opinions and knowledge. This is followed by conferences (18% [18%]), newsletters (15% [18%]) and word of mouth (13% [12%]).

Media also ranks highly in other education and communication materials or events which would increase knowledge, with rural media articles rating at 27% [24%] and metropolitan media articles at 15% [19%]. Community Forums are also seen as a valuable source of understanding at 20% [22%] and also gene technology booklets (13% [11%]).

One specific additional question asked at these Forums was "If and when the moratorium on growing GM crops in South Australia is lifted, how long will it be before you grow GM crops?" 30% said as soon as seed is available, while 18% indicated never (Figure 9).

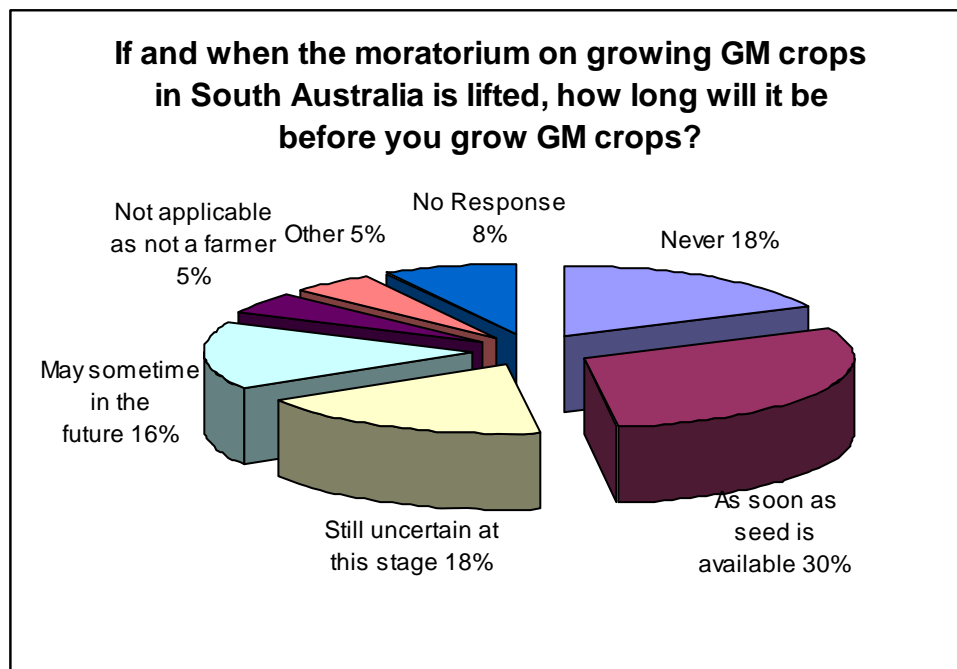


Figure 9

The full results of the evaluations are shown in Attachment 4. This also includes the evaluation form.

4. Concluding Remarks

SAFF appreciated receiving the funding to be able to run the GM Information Forums.

While the attendance was disappointing, there are several possible reasons:

- the decision of the State Government to continue the moratorium on growing GM crops in South Australia meant that a number of people did not attend, their attitude being that they had little to gain until the moratorium is lifted;
- with the delay in the State Government's decision and then the direction of the actual decision, meant that there was a delay in promoting the Forums, and the actual advertising "campaign" only happened in the week before the Forums (rather than three weeks as initially planned);
- there had been a similar series of GM meetings, with most of the same speakers, in 2006; and
- many now believe they have some knowledge about GM's and are not seeking more details at the moment.

While some of the same speakers had been involved in 2006, SAFF was lucky to gain the involvement of all the speakers used for these Forums, particularly Dr Chris Preston with his expertise on herbicide resistance, Geoff Masters who was able to put the views of ABB Grain as a marketer and storer of grain, and Scott Day who was able to give details on growing GM crops in Canada. It was because of the calibre of the speakers that the Forums were a success.

The evaluation showed that most had gained knowledge through attending. But it obvious that those attending were more discerning than in 2006 with many more criticising the information provided. This may have been due in part because some of those attending were opposed to GM such as some organic growers at Nuriootpa, a number at all who had indicated they were anti-GM, and at Lock there were some who had religious reasons for opposing the introduction of GM crops.

Despite this, 75% still believe that GM crops have the potential to deliver benefits with 55% believing that access to approved GM crop varieties is desired. However 61% believe that GM crops pose unresolved issues or areas of concern. SAFF will still have a need to provide more details to South Australian farmers as and when further information becomes available.

While 30% want to grow GM crops as soon as possible, there were 18% who indicated that they will never grow GM crops. SAFF's GM policy is to allow choice. But in allowing choice, it is necessary to be aware of this split in opinion and that SAFF will need to ensure that when GM crops are allowed in this State that there is effective segregation of crops and seed, and that sufficient safeguards are in place so that those who do not want GM crops on their land know that their wishes will be respected.

Attachment 1: Media Release from SA Government

South Australia will stay GM-free



Hon MIKE RANN MP, Premier
 Premier
 Minister for Economic Development
 Minister for Social Inclusion
 Minister for the Arts
 Minister for Sustainability and Climate Change



Hon RORY McEWEN MP
 Minister for Agriculture, Food & Fisheries
 Minister for Forests

February 8, 2008

Premier Mike Rann and the Minister for Agriculture Rory McEwen says South Australia has chosen to stay GM free to help maintain its clean and green image which has been especially important in marketing our food and wine products to the world.

Mr Rann says Cabinet has decided to maintain the current moratorium from growing GM canola in South Australia beyond the end of April this year when the current regulations lapse.

"This means there will be no market or trade impacts on the integrity of South Australia's traditional or organic production systems.

"We made this decision – which we believe is the right one – because we are yet to be convinced allowing GM crops will have a positive impact on the marketing of our food and wine to our important export destinations around the world."

The State Government will today release the findings of the GM Crops Advisory Committee, which was formed last year to review the current legislation, the *Genetically Modified Crops Management Act 2004*.

"The committee received more than 230 submissions and 480 letters both for and against growing GM crops from a wide range of industry, farmers, farming groups, companies, individuals and national organisations.

"The Committee recommended the lifting of the current moratorium in SA, except on Kangaroo Island, after April 28 this year when the current regulations lapse.

"However we have also considered a number of significant market signals that have occurred since then that have led us to believe that maintaining the status quo is more responsible.

"For example:

- Foodland issued a statement saying it would be ensuring all of its home brand products were GM-free,
- Japanese meat importers reaffirmed they wanted a guarantee that none of the meat products they purchased had come from cattle that had eaten GM grains, and
- ABARE indicated that in some of this season's markets there were significant premiums for GM-free canola.

"It makes sense for us to maintain our current position until there's more certainty regarding the impact of exporting GM grains."

Agriculture Minister Rory McEwen says South Australia produces the second highest volume of grain crops in Australia with the greatest volume being grown in Western Australia.

"Significantly, Western Australia has decided, with I am told the overwhelming support of its farming community, to stay GM-free. So has Tasmania.

"At this stage, we believe the benefits of maintaining the current moratorium far outweigh any benefits of overturning it.

"I'm particularly concerned about the future impact on our marketing of SA food products.

"I'm well aware there's a divergence of opinion within the states with New South Wales and Victoria recently deciding to allow GM canola to be grown this year, while Western Australia and Tasmania continue to maintain bans.

"But we must be mindful that there's simply no turning back once the moratorium has been lifted. Maintaining the moratorium now will enable us to monitor developments elsewhere."

Minister McEwen says that in South Australia there is no immediate need to give the go-ahead for what would have been only a small number of growers wanting to grow crops from the two GM canola seeds developed by companies, Monsanto and Bayer.

"We will be watching to see how NSW and Victoria address the key issues of segregation and regulation in their States, as well as monitoring the benefits of keeping a moratorium in WA and Tasmania," Mr McEwen said.

"The GM Crops Advisory committee's report revealed a wide range of views and while lifting the current moratorium was supported by a majority of farmers who made submissions, the Government has decided it makes more sense to maintain the status quo for the time being."

Mr McEwen said there would now be a six-week public consultation period where interested parties would have the opportunity for further comment on the changes to the regulations in the Act that will continue the current moratorium in SA.



News Release

NR 03/08

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

An opportunity to find out about GM Crops

With the State Government deciding that the State's moratorium on growing genetically modified (GM) crops will **NOT** be lifted, the South Australian Farmers Federation (SAFF) has organised a series of GM information forums to provide the State's farmers with details about growing GM crops.

Mr Wayne Cornish, the State President of SAFF is urging all farmers to attend these forums.

"While the decision of the State Government was very disappointing, these forums will provide an opportunity for farmers to become better informed on whether to grow GM crops once the moratorium is lifted. This may even happen in two years time, so it is important that farmers now consider the advantages and disadvantages of growing such crops", Mr Cornish said.

"The forums will cover such issues as marketing, segregation and co-existence, and agronomic as well as a chance to consider Government regulations. Mr Scott Day, a Canadian farmer will also outline his experiences with GM crops."

Funding has been provided by the Australian Government, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to SAFF to run these forums.

The forums will be held at:

- Keith on 25 February (1.00 to 4.00 pm),
- Kadina 26 February (2.30 to 5.00 pm) (part of the Northern YP Grower Updates),
- Lock 27 February (2.00 to 5.00 pm) and
- Nuriootpa on 28 February (7.00 to 10.00 pm).

Ends

For further information:

Media Comment: Wayne Cornish 0408 630 018
SAFF President

Further details on the SA Agricultural Biotechnology Forums are available from Deane Crabb, SAFF Policy Manager 8100 8711 or dcrabb@saff.com.au

ABC South East SA (Mt Gambier)
Morning Show - 20/02/2008 - 08:48 AM
Stan Thomson
Producer Mr Stuart Stansfield 08 8724 1000

The **South Australian Farmers Federation** says it will not be cancelling a series of forums on how to grow genetically modified crops, despite the State Government's refusal to lift the moratorium as announced earlier this month. **Wayne Cornish** says good information beyond the moratorium is required, while bodies like **SAFF** are contracted to impart accurate and good information despite the ban. Cornish agrees that cost increases by grain companies will be incurred, but says the scuttlebutt released into the community over GM crops mean the forums are a good opportunity for people to learn the truth about genetically modified crops. Cornish says it was never going to be a wholesale shift if the moratorium were lifted, but a lot of work needs to be done before growers would totally commit to the GM processes; where accurate information to growers remains important and for growers to indicate whether the matter should be pushed further, or for **SAFF** to change its stance. Cornish says the forums will provide independent scientific information and is not an evening where pro-GM is forced down people's throats, but rather, it is a learning process.

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Interviewees: Wayne Cornish, South Australian Farmers Federation
Duration: 6:00

ABC South East SA (Mt Gambier)
Morning Show - 20/02/2008 - 08:54 AM
Stan Thomson
Producer Mr Stuart Stansfield 08 8724 1000

Geoff Masters discusses how the delay in the introduction of allowing GM crops to be grown in South Australia will cost more in monitoring and testing by ABB Grain. Masters says at present, there is now a legal requirement for all canola coming into or through South Australia to ensure it remains GM free, but may lead to additional costs in export or marketing because GM grain would not be shipped out of Port Adelaide as an example. Masters says ABB Grain had advised the SA Government on the needs for segregation of GM canola, but were totally surprised that the moratorium was continued, despite the recommendations of the government's own expert advisory committee.

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Interviewees: Geoff Masters, Grain Quality and Technical Services Manager, ABB Grain Limited
Duration: 5:00

ABC North & West SA (Port Pirie)
08:30 News - 20/02/2008 - 08:32 AM
Newsreader
Program Ph: 08 8638 4830

The state's **Farmers' Federation** says it won't be cancelling a series of forums on how to grow genetically modified crops, that's despite the State Govt's refusal to lift the moratorium. The Govt announced earlier this month that it will keep a statewide ban on GM crops to protect the export industry. **SAFF** President, **Wayne Cornish**, says he will continue to push for change and the pre-planned forums will go ahead next week. A spokesman for State **Agriculture** Minister, **Rory McEwen**, says the forums won't influence the State Govt's stance on the moratorium.

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Interviewees: Wayne Cornish, President, SAFF
Duration: 0:51

Attachment 3: Interviews with Scott Day

ABC South East SA (Mt Gambier)
Rural Report - 26/02/2008 - 06:40 AM
Karen Hunt
Station Ph: 08 8724 1011

Scott Day discusses how the GM debate is all done and dusted in Canada, where now the concern is climate change. Day was part of the presentation by the [South Australian Farmers Federation](#) on how to grow GM canola crops at Keith yesterday. Day says, in his province ninety five per cent of the canola grown is genetically modified and the grain is sold into the same marketplaces as that of Australian canola. Day says, despite having a choice, most of the Canadian [farmers](#) are continuing to grow GM canola. Day says the EU is importing the canola oil from Canada and may as well buy the canola meal, because the EU is already importing GM soy meal. Day says he has been involved with several high profile clients who want to know what the carbon footprint of the bushel of canola is and not whether it is GM canola, while the EU is impressed with the lack of petroleum carbon footprint in the canola.

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Interviewees: Scott Day, Manitoba Agronomist/[Farmer](#)
Duration: 5:00

ABC South East SA (Mt Gambier)
Rural Report - 27/02/2008 - 06:45 AM
Karen Hunt
Station Ph: 08 8724 1011

Part Two. Scott Day discusses how the GM debate is all done and dusted in Canada, where now the concern is climate change. Day was part of the presentation by the [South Australian Farmers Federation](#) on how to grow GM canola crops at Keith yesterday. Day says, in his province ninety five per cent of the canola grown is genetically modified and the grain is sold into the same marketplaces as that of Australian canola. On a personal note, Day says Round Up Ready or Liberty Link and other GM canola is in the crop rotations in the family business, where close to one third of acreage on each Manitoba [farm](#) is given over to canola plantings. Day explains how the clean up of seed has not been an issue either with transgenic or hybrid seed, while hybrid varieties took some time to become economical to grow with higher yields and production figures.

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Interviewees: Scott Day, Manitoba Agronomist/[Farmer](#)
Duration: 5:00

ABC South East SA (Mt Gambier)
Rural Report - 28/02/2008 - 06:50 AM
Karen Hunt
Station Ph: 08 8724 1011

Part Three. Final. Scott Day discusses how the GM debate is all done and dusted in Canada, where now the concern is climate change. Day was part of the presentation by the [South Australian Farmers Federation](#) on how to grow GM canola crops at Keith last week. Day notes how there are more seed producers, giving a lot more choice and additional varieties of seed that a few years ago under a public system. Day says it is not onerous in buying seeds, where a technical use agreement allows access to the technology on a fee for hectare basis and if there is a crop failure, you get your money back.

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Interviewees: Scott Day, Manitoba Agronomist

ABC North & West SA (Port Pirie)

Rural Report - 29/02/2008 - 06:35 AM

Lorna Perry

The GM debate is over and the questions remaining are what more can be done with GM and how far can it be taken. Canadian canola farmer, Scott Day, was at the **SAFF** GM meeting this week and says GM developers now need to start focussing on what consumers want instead of what producers want. Day says there are a lot of environmental concerns and people like one of the leaders of Greenpeace, who is a strong supporter of GM technology, are addressing these issues.

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Interviewees: Scott Day, Canadian Canola Farmer

Duration: 3:00

Attachment 4: Evaluation Form and the Responses

SAFF GM Information Forum Evaluation Form



1. Name*: (optional) _____
2. Email address* : _____
*Name and email address are required to receive a copy of the report on these Forums.
3. Occupation: _____
4. Forum Location: Keith / Kadina / Lock / Nuriootpa (Please circle one attended)
5. Prior to this Forum how would you have rated your GM knowledge and understanding (Please tick)
 - Low
 - Average
 - Above Average
 - Very high

	KEITH
Low	1
Average	7
Above Average	4
Very High	1
No Response	1

	KADINA
Low	
Average	4
Above Average	2
Very High	
No Response	

	LOCK
Low	2
Average	5*
Above Average	7
Very High	1
No Response	

	NURIOOTPA
Low	
Average	6
Above Average	2
Very High	1
No Response	

* GM knowledge of canola is now good

6. Do you regularly follow the GM debate? (Please tick)
 - Yes
 - No

	KEITH
Yes	11
No	2
No Response	1

	KADINA
Yes	6
No	
No Response	

	LOCK
Yes	12
No	3
No Response	

	NURIOOTPA
Yes	8
No	1
No Response	

7. What are your main sources of information about GM?

(Please tick all relevant boxes)

- Newsletters
 Conferences
 Colleagues/grower meetings
 Word of mouth
 Media
 Previous forums
 Other
-

KEITH

1. Media
2. Conferences
3. Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Media, Previous Forums, Other: Predominantly through work (seed industry)
4. Newsletters, Word of mouth, Media
5. Colleagues/grower meetings, Media
6. No response
7. Word of mouth, Media
8. Newsletters, Media
9. Newsletters, Conferences, Media
10. Conferences, Previous Forums
11. Media
12. Word of mouth, Media

LOCK

1. Word of mouth, Media, Other: Internet
2. Newsletters, Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Previous forums
3. Newsletters, Conferences, Word of mouth, Media
4. Newsletters, Word of mouth, Media
5. Newsletters, Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Word of mouth, Media, Previous forums
6. Conferences, Previous forums
7. Word of mouth, Media
8. Conferences, Media, Other: Newspapers
9. Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Media, Previous forums
10. Newsletters, Conferences, Previous forums
11. Newsletters, Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Word of mouth, Media, Previous forums
12. Newsletters, Word of mouth, Other: Non-GM farmers
13. Newsletters, Media, Previous forums
14. Previous forums, Other: Internet
15. Newsletters, Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Word of mouth, Media, Previous forums

13. Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Other: Travel over to Canada
14. Conferences, Media, Previous forums

KADINA

1. Newsletters, Media, Previous forums
2. Newsletters, Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Word of mouth, Media
3. Conferences, Media
4. Newsletters, Word of mouth, Previous forums
5. Media
6. Conferences, Media, Previous forums

NURIOOTPA

1. Newsletters, Conferences, Colleagues/grower meetings, Word of mouth, Media
2. Newsletters, Conferences, Media
3. Media
4. Colleagues/grower meetings, Other: Farm tours of Canada and USA
5. Colleagues/grower meetings, Word of mouth, Media
6. Conferences, Word of mouth, Media
7. Colleagues/grower meetings, Media, Other: publications overseas/industry involvement
8. Newsletters, Colleagues/grower meetings, Media
9. Newsletters, Conferences, Media

8. What other education/communication materials or events do you think would be beneficial to increase awareness and understanding of GM?

(Please tick relevant boxes)

- Gene technology booklet
 - Regular newsletter
 - Regular email bulletins/updates
 - Community forums
 - Articles/reports in rural media
 - Articles/reports in metropolitan media
 - Other – please list _____
-

KEITH

1. Community forums, Articles/reports in rural media
2. Articles/reports in metropolitan media
3. Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media – unbiased and based on science, not hearsay.
4. Articles/reports in rural media
5. Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
6. No response
7. Gene technology booklet, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
8. Regular newsletter
9. Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
10. Community forums
11. Gene technology booklet

LOCK

1. Community forums, Articles/reports in rural media, Other: Any balanced educational material addressing all concerns
2. Regular newsletter, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
3. Gene technology booklet, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
4. Left blank
5. Gene technology booklet, Community forums
6. Gene technology booklet
7. Left blank – comment: None – it has NO future.
8. Regular email bulletins/updates, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural media
9. Regular newsletter, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural media
10. Gene technology booklet, Regular email bulletins/updates
11. Community forums
12. Other: Facts instead of fiction

12. Gene technology booklet, Regular newsletter, Regular email bulletins/updates, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural media
13. Gene technology booklet
14. No response

KADINA

1. Gene technology booklet, Regular newsletter, Regular email bulletins/updates, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
2. Community forums, Articles/reports in metropolitan media
3. Articles/reports in rural media
4. Regular newsletter, Community forums
5. Articles/reports in rural media
6. Articles/reports in rural media

13. Gene technology booklet, Regular newsletter, Regular email bulletins/updates
14. Regular email bulletins/updates, Articles/reports in rural media
15. Other: Any of the above but more emphasis on risks, patent rights, royalties

NURIOOTPA

1. Gene technology booklet, Regular newsletter, Regular email bulletins/updates, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
2. Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
3. Community forums
4. Regular newsletter, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media
5. Gene technology booklet, Regular newsletter, Regular email bulletins/updates, Community forums, Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media – All of these are applicable but unless the information

provided is balanced the public will continue to be sceptical. We seem to be getting the extremes from both sides of the debate

6. Articles/reports in rural and metropolitan media – case studies and market reactions covering both sides of the debate

7. Left blank – Appears people have made their minds up – only 14 people attended meeting. With all the PR the status quo is not changing
8. Left blank
9. Articles/reports in rural media;
Articles/reports in metropolitan media

9. Do you believe that GM crops have the potential to deliver benefits? If so, what do you see as the key areas of benefit?

- Yes (if yes, please provide examples)
 No

KEITH

1. Yes. Weeds control – less cost fuel
2. Yes - Increased yields with GMO Hybrids. Reduced chemical – fuel costs
3. Yes - Less tillage, higher yielding crops, less chemical on crops
4. Yes - Weed control – yield
5. Yes - Food drought, salt, environmental benefits, weed and disease issues.
6. No response
7. Yes as gives greater flexibility in herbicide choice for field weed control.
8. Not sure, see what happens in Victoria and NSW.
9. Yes – (did not comment)

LOCK

1. Yes – I believe they will but before this happens I have to know they will not harm markets and health and are safe
2. Yes – (did not comment)
3. No – More negatives than positives – Risks too high
4. Yes – Control of weeds, yield increase and any other traits they can squeeze into to seed
5. Yes – Reduced chemical applications, increased yields
6. Yes – (did not comment)
7. No
8. Yes – Different chemicals to help with chemical resistance
9. Yes – Weed control – yield benefits
10. Yes – Better Breeding for weed control but mainly other traits
11. Yes – Less use of chemical
12. No – Will deliver us into slavery
13. Yes – Yield
14. Blank
15. No (did not comment)

10. Yes – (did not comment)
11. No
12. Yes – (did not comment)
13. Yes – Yield increase
14. Yes – (did not comment)

KADINA

1. No
2. Yes – Higher yields, lower production costs
3. Yes and No
4. Yes – In the right situations
5. Yes – Weed control
6. Yes – Reduce gluten in wheat (Health)

NURIOOTPA

1. Yes – Economic, Weed, Pest Control, Drought Tolerance, Nutritional (Crop) benefits. We might actually develop a true “clean green image”
2. Yes – For weed control for resistance weeds
3. Yes – Less Herbicide in environment
4. Yes – Increased yields by easier weed control, pest and disease control and possibly improved health
5. Yes – Increased yields? Less other chemical use therefore less chemical residue levels
6. Yes - Reduction of herbicide use
7. No (did not comment)
8. No (did not comment)
9. Yes – potential to decrease use of chemicals and therefore improve food and environmental safety

10. Do you believe that GM crops pose unresolved issues or areas of concern? If so, please provide details.

Yes (if yes, please provide examples)

No

KEITH

1. No
2. No
3. No
4. Yes – unsure, time will tell
5. No
6. No response
7. No
8. Perhaps
9. No
10. No
11. ?
12. Yes – because of people's lack of knowledge and understanding.
13. Yes – selling to market not seen as green
14. Yes – Control of genetics, control of research based around inputs

LOCK

1. Yes – There are many concerns about GM crops. Besides markets which are being addressed, for me they are health long-term side effects. Lowered fertility in stock has been reported, lowered immune systems.
2. Yes – lack of consumer acceptance owed to successful anti-GM lobby
3. Yes – Food security, markets – once gone that way, no going back
4. Yes – Handling of grain, herbicide resistance, general lack of understanding and misinformation around the whole issue
5. No
6. No
7. Yes – God created all things to work in harmony. Messing with it will create chaos in the food chain.
8. Yes – segregation of grain
9. No
10. No
11. No – not unsurmountable
12. Yes – markets – health, increased costs
13. No
14. Yes – insurance for contamination
15. Yes – Protection must be put in place to protect the non-GM growers

KADINA

1. Yes – Health Contamination Litigation
2. Yes – market acceptance
3. Yes – very hard to predict future outcomes as use of GMs has widened
4. Yes – customer concerns need to be dealt with
5. Yes – resistance, marketing GM/non-GM
6. Yes – cross species

NURIOOTPA

1. Yes – developmental progress is always open to some risk
2. Yes – If GMO affects other businesses on their markets eg meat, milk
3. Yes – market/consumer awareness
4. No
5. Yes – Eliminates choice due to inability to segregate GM from non GM, market perceptions – clean/green, herbicide resistance?, what cost of technology to chemical/seed cost?
6. Yes – are we going from herbicide treadmill to big business on political treadmill, keeping the choice, those not wanting GM remaining clean from contamination, clean and green image SA has, point of difference – big marketing tool in niche area
7. Yes – many
8. Yes – unresolved health issues, risking organic certification, chemical company monopoly, risking our image of clean & green
9. Yes – 1) the real possibility of some long term affect that are currently not aware of
2) the further concentration of the world's food gene pool in the hands of a few multinationals who have dubious records of global stewardship

11. Do you believe farmers in Australia should have access to approved GM crop varieties?

- Yes (please comment)
 No (please comment)

KEITH

1. Yes – (did not comment)
2. Yes – (did not comment)
3. Yes – farmers need to have a choice on what they can grow
4. Yes – (did not comment)
5. Yes – (did not comment)
6. Left blank
7. Left blank
8. Yes – if we do not lose our clean green image
9. Yes – (did not comment)
10. Yes – (did not comment)
11. Not sure
12. Yes – individual farmers should have choice
13. No – more teaching on end product
14. Left blank

LOCK

1. No – not at this stage. Leave the box shut and address the issues first
2. Yes – (did not comment)
3. No – (did not comment)
4. Left blank
5. Yes – (did not comment)
6. Yes – (did not comment)
7. No – in the long run better to keep premium natural markets
8. Yes – given the lack of a premium for GM free currently, there are few benefits not to.
9. Yes – for all the reasons we heard from Scott Day
10. Yes – (did not comment)
11. Yes – advancement
12. No – nothing wrong with varieties we already have
13. Yes – bring it on
14. No – lack of controls, isolating, safety
15. No – there are so many unanswered questions. 10 years is a very small window. Non-GM growers should have legal protection if they want to remain non-GM.

KADINA

1. No – until proven safe for health issues
2. Left blank
3. Half-tick in "No" box, did not comment
4. Left blank
5. Yes – (did not comment)
6. Yes – in a limited way

NURIOOTPA

1. Yes – Genetic change has been manipulated for generations. Producers do need the opportunity to be competitive.
2. Yes – but be cautious in not going into it too far
3. Yes – (did not comment)
4. Yes – farmers need to have access to new varieties which have been bred and improved for economic growth and to compete in overseas markets.
5. Yes – when there is absolutely no doubt about it's safety and when science, producers and consumers all agree
6. Left blank – Not until we have sorted out potential problems
7. No – If 2/3 farmers want it – then they have a mandate
8. No – letting the 'cat out of the bag' issues
9. Don't know

12. Did this Forum provide sufficient information relevant to GM cropping? If no, was there an aspect not well covered?

Yes

No, if no please comment _____

KEITH

1. Yes
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. Yes
6. Left blank
7. Yes
8. Yes
9. Yes
10. Yes
11. Yes
12. Yes – OK
13. Yes
14. Left blank – comment: Regulation and proofing varieties

LOCK

1. No – dealt only with GM canola. Meeting only prepared to discuss canola.
2. No – Not enough about OGTR – under health dept etc. Needed more emphasis on safety assessments
3. No – little unbalanced
4. Left blank
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. No – pro-GM totally/no downside?
8. Yes
9. Yes
10. Yes
11. No – Not familiar enough
12. No – one-sided
13. Yes
14. No – state level only – no federal issues
15. No – liability problems, litigation involving seed owners

KADINA

1. No – As mentioned above – health contamination litigation
2. Left blank
3. Yes
4. Left blank
5. Yes
6. Yes

NURIOOTPA

1. Yes
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. No – the information presented was interesting, relevant but one-sided. No balance!
6. No – need representation to BOTH sides of debate
7. No – little on environment, food issues barely touched
8. No – It was very one-sided. I know there are many reputable scientists against GM crops
9. Neutral – no attempt was made to provide the 'opposing' point of view. However that didn't bother me in this forum. I only expected the point of view that was given.

13. Did this Forum provide you with balanced and credible GM information in an easy-to understand manner? (Please tick)

- Yes
- No

KEITH

1. No – probably one-sided – where Julie?
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. No – did not get an anti view
5. Y
6. Left blank
7. Y
8. Y
9. Y
10. N
11. Y

12. Left blank – comment: I don't know if it's balanced – no pro conventional speaker
13. No – one sided information
14. Left blank

KADINA

1. No
2. Left blank
3. Left blank
4. Left blank
5. Yes
6. Yes

LOCK

1. No – not at all balanced in regards to the debate
2. Yes
3. No
4. Left blank
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. No
8. Yes
9. Yes
10. Yes
11. Yes
12. No
13. Yes
14. No
15. No

NURIOOTPA

1. Yes – in my opinion based on my current knowledge and expertise
2. No
3. No
4. Yes
5. No – The information presented was interesting, relevant but one-sided. No balance!
6. Yes: scientifically, No: market forces, political implications, big business manipulation
7. No – only one side given
8. No – It was very one-sided, I know that there are many reputable scientists against GM crops
9. Neutral – hardly balanced overall, but each speaker was excellent and easy to understand

14. Has this Forum given you sufficient knowledge and confidence to engage in the debate with colleagues, growers, industry groups etc?

- Yes
- No

KEITH

Yes 9
No 1
No Response 4

KADINA

Yes 3
No 1
No Response 2

LOCK

Yes 10
No 1*
No Response 1
* nothing to debate

NURIOOTPA

Yes 7
No 2
No Response

15. Following this Forum how would you rate your GM knowledge and understanding? (Please tick)

- Low
 Average
 Above Average
 Very high

KEITH

Low
 Average 4
 Above Average 8*
 Very High 1
 No Response 1
 *did learn some things

KADINA

Low
 Average
 Above Average 4
 Very High
 No Response 2

LOCK

Low
 Average 2
 Above Average 11
 Very High 1
 No Response 1

NURIOOTPA

Low
 Average 2
 Above Average 5
 Very High 1*
 No Response 1
 *very concerning

16. If and when the moratorium on growing GM crops in South Australia is lifted, how long will it be before you grow GM crops?

- Never
 As soon as seed is available
 Still uncertain at this stage
 May sometime in the future
 Not applicable as not a farmer
 Other answer

Please explain your answer _____

KEITH

1. As soon as seed is available
2. As soon as seed is available
3. Not applicable as not a farmer
4. As soon as seed is available
5. May sometime in the future – interested in environmental issues, Not applicable as not a farmer
6. Left blank
7. Still uncertain at this stage – I am not in cropping country and the species that are used in pasture renovations aren't on the G.M.O. lists to be available.
8. Still uncertain at this stage – will see how VIC and NSW turns out
9. As soon as seed is available – to solve weed problems in canola/legumes
10. Still uncertain at this stage
11. May sometime in the future
12. Left blank
13. May sometime in the future
14. Still uncertain at this stage

KADINA

1. Never
2. Left blank
3. Still uncertain at this stage
4. Left blank
5. Other – we can't grow canola in low rainfall area
6. May sometime in the future – see what happens, let someone else experiment

LOCK

1. Still uncertain at this stage, May sometime in the future – I don't like to be locked into one option in regard to what seed I can use with what chemical. Bayer Monsanto and other would like to. The power of the dollars is dominating the debate. Pushing far too hard.
2. As soon as seed is available – would choose as with any other variety – i.e. according to traits
3. Never, Still uncertain at this stage – health, markets, food, security, risks too high
4. Left blank
5. As soon as seed is available – (did not comment)
6. As soon as seed is available – (did not comment)
7. Never – it will make me a 'murderer'
8. May sometime in the future – as soon as varieties are proven to be reliable in our district
9. As soon as seed is available – Am fully in favour of GMOs
10. As soon as seed is available – (did not comment)
11. Still uncertain at this stage – Not familiar enough
12. Never – I don't want to kill people
13. As soon as seed is available – bring it on
14. Never – (did not comment)
15. Never – (did not comment)

NURIOOTPA

1. As soon as seed is available – if there are benefits or the crops are growable – if there are benefits to my current system. Something like salinity tolerance would be of trial interest, but probably little benefit.
2. May sometime in the future – Long as it is seen to make my business profitable
3. Still uncertain at this stage – (did not comment)
4. As soon as seed is available – Over my 60 years of farming I have willingly accepted new research and technology to improve farming. I have faith in the research officers and scientists to be confident in accepting their findings.
5. May sometime in the future – (did not comment)
6. Never – It does not fit the 'niche' profile we aspire to, as a region as well as personally. We already work in low spray/herbicide region using natural programs.
7. Other answer – after very long evaluation
8. Never – being certified growers – certification would be lost
9. Not applicable as not a farmer

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>KEITH</p> <p>1 Left blank</p> <p>2 Left blank</p> <p>3 The general public need to be presented with a science-based debate – rather than the</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1. sensational stories. How, I don't know</p> <p>4 Left blank</p> <p>5 Left blank</p> <p>6 Very interesting meeting with good speakers</p> <p>7 Left blank</p> <p>8 I am worried about cost of seed and chemicals. Canola seed at \$14,000/tonne now.</p> <p>9 Left blank</p> <p>10 Left blank</p> <p>11 Left blank</p> <p>12 Left blank</p> <p>13 too much chemical on soil</p> <p>14 Left blank</p> <p>LOCK</p> <p>1. Not a balanced meeting/forum. Only canola discussed, not enough effort put in to put away any doubts about health issues. There is any amount on the web, from humans to animals. If we are allowed to grow GM canola, how easy would it be to bring other GM crops online. Address <u>all</u> the concerns first. If they are found to be baseless show us, don't just push GM crops down our throats.</p> <p>2. Showed how ignorant some people are of <u>facts</u>.</p> <p>3. Left blank</p> <p>4. Left blank</p> <p>5. Left blank</p> <p>6. Left blank</p> <p>7. "The love of money is the root of all evil"</p> <p>8. Left blank</p> <p>9. Was a great line up of speakers! Unfortunately some farmers are 20yrs behind adopting new technology.</p> <p>10. Cannot believe the level of ignorance about breeding and what GM is about. Not sure what God had to do with it!</p> <p>11. Left blank</p> <p>12. Follow the money trail</p> <p>13. Hurry up lift the ban</p> <p>14. Left blank</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1. 15. The main thing being modified is the truth</p> | <p>KADINA</p> <p>1 These forums are not giving farmers both sides of the debate – the very few farmers attending these meetings is of concern</p> <p>2 Left blank</p> <p>3 Left blank</p> <p>4 Left blank</p> <p>5 Left blank</p> <p>6 Left blank</p>
<p>NURIOOTPA</p> <p>1 I believe that Australian farmers are disadvantaged by some of their terms of Trade – GMOs is just one issue. How "clean and green" is our current image really?</p> <p>2 Left blank</p> <p>3 Left blank</p> <p>4 I believe that a few people who oppose GM GM crops have used scare tactics to state their case. These untruths shall be exposed</p> <p>5. The lack of balance in the roadshow is of great concern. While SAFF executive appear pro-GM, is it obvious that many of your members are not. I am seriously considering my future membership of SAFF. Happy to talk to SAFF re re this</p> <p>6. We need time for emotions to settle, get safe guard structures and allow both sides to have a safe choice. DO NOT RUSH THIS</p> <p>Left blank</p> <p>8. Left blank</p> <p>9. Congratulations Wayne, Deane and Co – well run, great speakers, good discussion. I was disappointed that there weren't more 'real' farmers in attendance</p> |
|---|--|

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form and providing us with your feedback.

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