

**Canola oil** may be used in many manufactured foods, some being:

- Bakery products
- Bread
- Butter
- Chips
- Confectionery
- Creamers and coffee whiteners
- Deli items in oil i.e. capsicum and sun-dried tomatoes etc
- Dips
- Frying oil
- Low fat food
- Margarine
- Pasta sauce
- Sandwich spreads
- Salad oil
- Shortening
- Vegetable oil

It is also used in pharmaceuticals and nutritional supplements.

**Canola meal** is what is left over after the canola oil has been removed. It is used as a protein supplement in animal and farmed fish feed. This may affect the quality of the:

- Eggs
- Milk
- Cheese
- Meat
- Fish

Honey may be affected if bees have pollinated GM canola fields. In the UK in 2002, independent laboratory tests showed GM DNA in honey 2 miles from a GM test site.

### Please urgently:

1. Write to :  
Kevin Rudd – PM  
Nicola Roxon – Minister for Health  
Jan McLucas – Parliamentary Secretary to the Health Minister  
Tony Burke – Minister for Agriculture  
At Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600.  
Ask them to ban the growing of GM canola until full, independent safety tests are done.
2. Ask your council to be officially declared a GM-free zone
3. Contact your State Members of Parliament to insist on full, independent safety tests before GM is grown in Australia.

### MADGE wants Government to:

Ban the commercial growing of GM canola in Australia until full independent health and safety tests on GM canola are done. The public then needs to have a real discussion about the results of these tests.

Addresses and suggestions for letters can be found at:

**MADGE**

[www.madge.org.au](http://www.madge.org.au)  
[info@madge.org.au](mailto:info@madge.org.au)

PO Box 10, 287 Brunswick St, Fitzroy, 3065



**GM** canola has been **inadequately tested.**

**Why** should we grow, or eat it, in Australia?



# GM canola has been inadequately tested.

**Why** should we grow, or eat it, in Australia?



Canola grows as a paddock of bright yellow flowers and the seeds are pressed to make canola oil. The oil is on supermarket shelves and in lots of food. What's left over after the oil is removed is called "meal". It is fed to animals.

**Chemical companies have spent millions of dollars to get scientists to change the genetics of the plant so their weed killer can be sprayed on canola without killing it. This is what Genetically Manipulated (GM) Canola is.**

Nobody has tested to see if the oil from GM canola is safe for humans to eat.

Most people assume that we're being looked after by the Government Food Standards people (FSANZ), but they have relied on the

tests provided by the companies that have developed the GM canola.

**One company test showed that rats fed their GM canola seed for 4 weeks, had an unhealthy 12-16% increase in liver weight. Why was this result ignored?**

Another company fed 10 rabbits GM canola seed for 4 days. What if the GM canola causes illness that takes longer than 4 days to show and years to detect, like cancer and AIDS? What if it causes birth defects in offspring?

There's a Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) but she says human food safety isn't her responsibility.

The WA Government wanted to test for safety. A commissioned research group

approached GM crop companies for samples. One company ignored their request while others refused unless the researchers agreed to prohibitive conditions that undermined the research. The researchers refused to do this and so the companies denied them GM samples.

**We are happy and healthy with our usual food. Generally, the only people who want GM canola to be grown have financial interests in seeing it planted.**

Imported GM canola oil has been 'secretly' fed to us in increasing amounts, without any labelling, over the past few years. It has not been tested for DNA, residues, proteins, or toxins in the oil. MADGE is concerned GM food may be connected to increasing food allergies and other food related disease.

**No-one is looking after you, but the power is in your hands.**



**For how to take urgent action turn to the back page of this leaflet.**