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Contact: Madeleine Love 0447 762 284

Ireland's new-tech GM-free pleases consumers, farmers and retailers

<http://www.gmfreeireland.org/press/GMFI45.pdf>

The Irish Government will ban the cultivation of all GM crops and introduce a voluntary GM-free label for food – including meat, poultry, eggs, fish, crustaceans, and dairy produce made without the use of GM animal feed.

MADGE Australia's Madeleine Love said "Vic, NSW and WA are taking giant steps backwards into dangerous old-tech GM dinosaur crops, and Ireland has moved forward into the future, becoming a GM-free zone, looking after consumers, farmers and retailers."

The Irish release said "Everyone knows that US and EU consumers, food brands and retailers want safe GM-free food, and Ireland is ideally positioned to deliver the safest, most credible GM-free food band in Europe, if not the world."

Expanding, Ms Love said "Consumers around the world want GM-free food, yet here we are in Australia bringing layers of dispute, complications, contaminations and extra costs, all for the profit of the agri-chemical companies and for the free trade we're unlikely to get."

"GM crops which enrich the big corporations are old-tech. Pleasing consumers, farmers and retailers is new-tech agriculture."

The release continued...

The President of the Irish Cattle and Sheepfarmers Association, Malcolm Thompson, said he was delighted by the announcement, adding, "The Government's new GM-free policy is the fulfillment of what we at ICSA have held for the last five years. I very much look forward to its full implementation."

The Irish Government plan to ban GM crops and to provide a voluntary GM-free label for qualifying animal produce makes obvious business sense for our agri-food and eco-tourism sectors.