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To whom it concerns,

GMO foods and cotton are part of the destruction of our environment/ Use of Glyphosate after introduction of Roundup-ready varieties increased 17 times. Glyphosate is extremely harmful to environment and health.

We ,under no circumstances, should allow these practices to widen.

From emissions created through the destruction of soils to impacts on the natural world and human health- we cannot allow this to happen.

Coronavirus shows the world right now what happens when humans fiddle with a genetic code! Enough is enough!

I am a veterinarian with an excellent education in medicine and veterinary medicine.

Farmers mostly do not have the knowledge to critically judge what is offered to them as seed-stock.

Roundup and other agri-chemicals are convenient and make the chemical companies millions of dollars.

This is NOT about food health -to let GMO's even moe- and unlabelled- into our world is dangerous, foolish and criminal.

Evidence of Rounup-ready corn causing cancer is documented. To allow these substances into our food-chain is a call for disaster and , truly, just about money. When will we stop selling out our planet and our health?

Polling shows most Australians, and global citizens don't want to eat genetically modified (GM) foods. All GM foods should be independently assessed for their health and environmental hazards and risks, be labelled as GM, and be traceable. This will allow farmers, food producers, retailers, and shoppers to avoid them, for many important reasons.

I therefore strongly oppose changes to the Food Code that would allow a wide range of GM foods, made using novel methods that have scant history of safe use, to be sold without safety assessment or labelling. These would include meat and milk from some genetically modified animals and substances like vanilla and stevia produced by genetically modified microbes in factory vats. These changes would undermine FSANZ's key responsibilities to ensure food safety and our right to know what is in our food.

Agrochemical companies cannot be trusted to self-assess the safety of GM foods as they have an appalling record of manipulating data to promote dangerous products.

Gene editing techniques have been found to make genetic changes that could never occur in nature and to result in widespread genetic damage that often goes undetected by GM developers.

I am deeply concerned that FSANZ has relied on advice from scientists with serious conflicts of interest, to conclude these new GM foods pose no greater risks than existing foods. Those seeking to commercialise GM plants, animals and microbes should play no role in deciding how - or even whether - foods derived from them should be regulated.

The proposed changes would make Australia one of very few countries in the world to allow genetically modified animal products into our food chain with no regulation or labelling. This would put us at odds with our international trading partners, which FSANZ admits “may have a significant impact on trade”. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, an international agreement signed by 166 governments worldwide, and the UN’s food standards body Codex Alimentarius agree that all GM techniques differ from conventional breeding and that pre-market safety assessments are essential before GM organisms are used in food.

I support expanding the definition for ‘gene technology’ so FSANZ continues to assess and regulate all techniques and methods of genetic modification, other than conventional breeding. The proposal to deregulate new and emerging GM techniques and their food products, which pose new and unassessed risks, is completely unacceptable.

Thank you for taking my well-founded and informed concerns into consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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