

Greenpeace brings a dark day for Australian science

Thursday July 14, 2011 - Greenpeace today have proven they are more interested in emotional blackmail of parents and spin doctoring than they are in global food security and science based public policy decision making.

CropLife Chief Executive Officer, Matthew Cossey, said today he is disappointed that Greenpeace have imported irresponsible activist activity to Australia. Slamming them as nothing more than intellectually weak troglodytes Mr Cossey said "The vandalism of GM trials is nothing but a short sighted attempt to garner publicity".

"This is a dark day for Australian science and there can be no justification for this act. This type of activity from Greenpeace is unethical and morally questionable, especially when the world is facing the challenge of global food security".

"Reckless interference of this kind only delays valuable and essential scientific research. The exact purpose of these independent scientific trials was to assess and analyse the safety and potential of healthier wheat varieties critical to Australia's agricultural future".

"It is hypocritical of Greenpeace to demand that governments act on the science of climate change and at the same time demand that government completely ignore and act against the science of biotechnology".

"Through their luddite destruction of scientific trials Greenpeace have reduced themselves to a 21st Century equivalent of the flat earth society."

"Regulatory decisions need to be based on proven science, not on Greenpeace's deception, falsehoods and half truths", Mr Cossey concluded.

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About CropLife Australia

CropLife Australia is the peak industry organisation representing the agricultural chemical and biotechnology (plant science) sector in Australia. CropLife represents the innovators, developers, manufacturers, formulators and registrants of crop protection and agro-biotechnology products. The plant science industry provides products to protect crops against pests, weeds and diseases, as well as developing crop biotechnologies that are key to the nation's agricultural productivity, sustainability and food security. The plant science industry is worth more than \$1.5 billion a year to the Australian economy and directly employs thousands of people across the country. CropLife member companies spend more than \$13 million a year on stewardship activities to ensure the safe use of their products on the environment and human health. CropLife ensures the responsible use of these products through its industry code of conduct and has set a benchmark for industry stewardship through programs such as *drumMUSTER*, ChemClear[®] and Agsafe Accreditation and Training.

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