
Organic Agriculture Protection Fund

“To preserve and protect certified organic food and fibre production”

On January 10, 2002 at Saskatchewan's Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatoon, a statement of claim was filed by two certified organic grain farmers on behalf of all certified organic grain farmers in Saskatchewan. The class action suit calls for:

- 1. Compensation for the damage caused to certified organic farmers resulting from the introduction of genetically engineered (GE) canola into the rural environment; and**
- 2. An injunction to prevent the introduction of GE wheat.**

The suit names **Monsanto** Canada and **Aventis** Canada. Monsanto sells GE Roundup Ready canola and Aventis sells GE Liberty Link canola. Monsanto is preparing to introduce its GE glyphosate tolerant wheat as early as 2004. If the suit is certified as a class action by the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench, then other Canadian certified organic grain farmers will have the opportunity to opt in.

What is at stake?

- **The right to grow organic crops.** Organic certification standards prohibit genetically engineered organisms. Customers demand a ZERO tolerance level for GE contamination. The claim alleges GE canola has spread uncontrollably so that prairie organic farmers can no longer grow GE-free canola.
- **The right to serve organic markets.** The claim alleges that certified organic farmers in Saskatchewan have lost the opportunity to sell certified organic canola which returns premium prices. This is a significant economic loss to farmers and the prairie economy.
- **The right to eat GMO free food.** GE canola is an example that shows GE crops cannot be segregated. If GE wheat is introduced it will spread and become part of our daily bread, whether we want it or not.
- **The right to farm organically.** Wheat is the foundation of agriculture in Saskatchewan. If certified organic farmers lose wheat as a crop due to GE contamination, it will be nearly impossible to operate an organic farm. Organic agriculture is a beacon of hope for prairie farming. It is growing, profitable, and healthy, and it supports farm families and rural communities.

**For more details see the
SOD website at www.saskorganic.com**

or phone (306) 476-2089
fax (306) 476-2146 or email debbie.miller@saskorganic.com

YOU CAN HELP!

Send your cheque or money order payable to the SOD OAPF to
SOD OAPF, Box 1, Lisieux, SK. CANADA, S0H 2R0. To donate by credit card, please see the website.

**Support Saskatchewan farmers' fight to protect
The Right to Farm GMO Free AND The Right to Eat GMO Free**
