

Washington farmer says GMO alfalfa a 'mystery'

An Eastern Washington farmer says he has no idea how genetically engineered alfalfa started growing in his fields.

Joseph Peila said the alfalfa seeds were planted in fall 2010, and genetically modified seeds were not even approved by the federal government until January 2011.

"I want to protect other farmers," Peila, who farms near the town of Royal City, said Tuesday, explaining why he is coming forward to tell his story.

Peila sold 70 acres of his hay crop to an export broker this summer. After the broker's tests revealed the alfalfa was genetically modified, Peila contacted the state Agriculture Department in late August.

Read the full, original story here: "[Washington farmer says GMO alfalfa a 'mystery'](#)"