

## South Australia's ban on GMO crops could be overturned as Liberal Party takes power

The victory by the Liberal Party in the South Australian election, may lead to a new era of choice for that state's farmers.

Last year the Liberal Party committed to a review of a moratorium on growing genetically modified crops if it should win.

If it lifts the ban, Tasmania would be the last remaining grain growing state where GM crop can't be grown. A four-year ban was lifted in Victoria in November 2007, paving the way for the first crops to be grown in 2008.

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Grain Producers Australia is calling for an immediate exemption for the transport of GM seed through South Australia, in a bid to reduce seed costs to West Australian farmers.

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WAFarmers Grains Council president Duncan Young said the ban on GM canola in WA was lifted in 2010.

"It's positive — the fact that growers have a choice on whether to grow conventional, hybrid or GM," Mr Young said.

"It's great for integrated weed management."

Mr Young said the new high omega 3 GM canola, which was approved by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator for release in Australia, would be a game changer.

"This is the second phase of GM technology," he said.

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