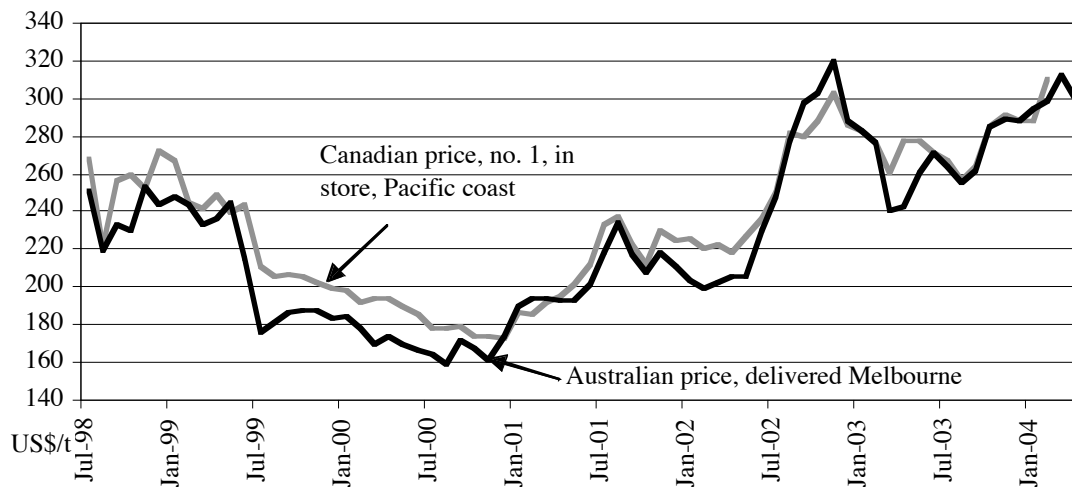


Wrong Strong Views!

To clear up the confusion over Australia non-GM and Canadian GM canola prices please see the following chart. During the last 5 years of rapid Canadian GM canola adoption their prices have averaged \$US10/t more than ours. See the more recent data in the graph.



I believe I do not need to respond to Graham Strong's (NCF) negative views about me, as I think most WA farmers know that I have no hidden agenda. Please also note that I have not received payment from anyone for anything that I have written that is pro-GM. I am thankful for my 12 months in Canada in 1996 that you, the tax payers, gave me.

Graham says, in part that, "genes would be pursued, with farmers shouldering the responsibility of making sure every blade of grass found growing on their properties contains genes they have paid royalties for." This is not true! Please note that farmer-Percy was found guilty by the supreme court of effectively stealing Roundup Ready (RR) canola and growing over 1,000 acres of RR canola. Which Percy purified the previous year by spraying Roundup over part of his 1997 canola crop. He is guilty!

Please be aware that Percy was dobbed in by his local farming community for doing the wrong thing. Also, Julie organized, with Green Peace airfare funding for Percy, his trip here two years ago - which I attended. Percy is also a political aspirant.

Graham infers that the agronomic benefits of GM crops are short lived. This is not true for GM canola in Canada - the issue I raised. The agronomic benefits of GM canola that I listed (see www.no-till.com.au) are numerous and robust and continue to please the Canadians.

There has been no "cooling off" of GM canola in Canada. Max Foster's data was reflecting Canadian farmers growing less canola due to severe droughts recently, but the proportion of GM canola continued to grow. Max also said "There is currently no clear evidence to suggest that there is a premium for non-GM canola."

May I ask that those of you who are like me, who have a modest understanding of GMs that you speak up and not let the noisy few stop us all from using this good technology. Surely many of you have been to NSW and know the wonderful improvements that GM cotton has meant to these farmers with less pesticides.

Please also be aware that GM canola will most likely reduce our herbicide resistance problems and not make them worse. This is the Canadian experience and I am confident that it would be the same for us. With GM Basta or Liberty canola we would add more knockdown diversity also.