

The Science isn't Settled.

Highlights from Dr. Myers 2/28 Testimony on GE Canola:

- **“There are unsettled questions about GMO canola.”**
- **“The question of whether to allow GE canola ... reflects a combination of understanding the reproductive biology of various crops along with determining what is an acceptable level of risk by specialty seed growers. The stakes are high for the specialty seed industry and the risk of contamination by GE canola is one variable in the risk equation that can be controlled.”**
- **“Many inadvertent releases [of GE crops] around the globe have been documented (Price & Cotter, 2014) and Oregon has seen its share, from GE wheat found in fields in Eastern Oregon, to the escape of GE bent grass in the Warm Springs area, to the mixing of GE sugar beet stecklings in compost that was distributed in the Willamette Valley.”**
- **“A recent review documented 23 cases of the unintentional release of *B. napus [canola]* into the environment around the world (Sohn et al., 2021). Two of these cases were documented in the U.S.”**
- **“There are no recent studies to determine what levels of GE off-types are present in contemporary US seed lots of conventional canola. Until we know this, I would recommend testing conventional canola seed lots for GE presence (specifically herbicide resistance transgenes) prior to planting unless they come with a seed certification tag that attests to GE contaminants being below the threshold allowed for off-types and other varieties.”**



GMO canola found growing in the wild in North Dakota.
<https://news.uark.edu/articles/14453/first-wild-canola-plants-with-modified-genes-found-in-united-states>

Dr. James R. Myers is a Baggett-Frazier Endowed Professor of Vegetable Breeding and Genetics in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University. His full comments can be found [here](#).