

13th September 2010

The Editor

The West Australian GPO Box D162 PERTH WA 6840

Dear Sir

MONSANTO DEAL GOOD FOR FARMERS

Australian farmers are desperate for some return on our investment dollar. We have been going backwards – paying 1% for a 0.9% productivity gain in cropping. Even attributing that gain to our own levy investment is tenuous.

Our farmers are keen to leverage our R&D investment. If we can access Monsanto's high-tech equipment and expertise and gain their commitment to accelerating the rate of wheat research and varietal development, that is good for farmers.

It matters not what the profit margins of our suppliers are, so long as we have freedom of choice in purchasing products. The company or individual that provides the best service or product should make the most money. That's a capitalist system. It is what has made Australia great, and it's what will allow us to continue to provide food to the world in an increasingly efficient manner.

Kudos to the forward-minded people at InterGrain for recognising the benefits that working with a world plant breeder like Monsanto can bring.

Rick Wilson

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