



TOHOKU SEED CO., LTD.

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

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To whom it may concern:

My name is Takashi Ishizaki, and I am a seed production specialist for Tohoku Seed CO., LTD in Japan. Tohoku is a vegetable breeding and sales company headquarters in Tochigi, Japan. Tohoku develops non-GMO Open pollinate and hybrid vegetables and flowers for the professional farmers and home garden farmers in Japan as well as around the world.

We grow brassica seed crops around the world for risk management and genetic adaptation. Oregon's Willamette Valley is one of the few special seed production areas in the world. The combination of soil, water, good growers and favorable climate combine to create a very desirable area for specialty seed production. The Willamette Valley commands high price for their crops but we are willing to pay that price since excellent seed quality and consistent good yield under the grovel climate changes. Places like the Willamette Valley are unique. Our experience in the Willamette Valley has been very positive. It is not exaggeration to say that Tohoku has been expanding our business to be one of top 3 companies in Japan and we still keep this position, and we could build our reputation of selling high quality seeds because of the Willamette Valley seed production.

We are concerned about Canola production in the Willamette Valley for disease, GMO contamination and isolation issues. Canola can and does grow in many places. That is not the case for consistent high quality vegetable seeds.

If something is not done to provide long term protection from Canola then my company and other companies will need to immediately start looking for other places to produce seeds. We do not look forward to this prospect as we have very few good areas worldwide.

For the reasons above, I do not have any positive thoughts for Canola production in Willamette Valley. I like to continue producing our seeds in this this area.

Respectfully,

石崎 隆 2023/05/08

Takashi Ishizaki

Production Manager

TOHOKU SEED CO.,LTD