

## **Script for the information market**

### **GM canola findings spreading in Japan and citizen's investigative activities**

**- A report from 3 years of citizen's survey of spilled GM canola**

#### **NO! GMO Campaign**

Even though GM canola is not grown in Japan, we can see imported GMO canola growing wild especially at ports where it is unloaded, along main road to oil extracting facilities and to animal feed factories and other places.

It was made public by the Japanese government in 2004. The surveys conducted by the government were limited to areas around ports, therefore, they cannot be used to understand the wide spread GM pollution. Given this factor, the citizens group "NO! GMO Campaign" called for a nationwide citizens own investigation, and the survey started in the spring of 2005. People from consumers' organizations such as consumers' co-operatives joined the survey. About 1500 consumers have been participating in the surveys every year.

3 years of citizens' investigations have revealed that it is an ascertained fact that the spillage of GM canola is continuing to spread in Japan. It has become a common event around ports and oil extraction factories, as well as by transportation route. Additionally, GM canola was found in other places and the causes have not known.

GM canola was found growing where animal feed factories are situated. Rapeseed meal is produced after the oil is extracted; therefore such areas have been seen as unlikely spots for GM canola to be found.

If the GM canola continues to grow wild, it is a matter of time that leaf mustard and conventional rapeseed will be crossed and contaminated by GMOs. Also, some other cruciferous vegetables are in danger of GM contamination. Furthermore, the impact on local biodiversity is at risk, as well as potential contamination into food through ecosystem.