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Sustainable Transport Coalition of WA Inc.



Conservation Council of WA Inc.



The Western Australian Farmers Federation



Food Industry Association WA Inc.

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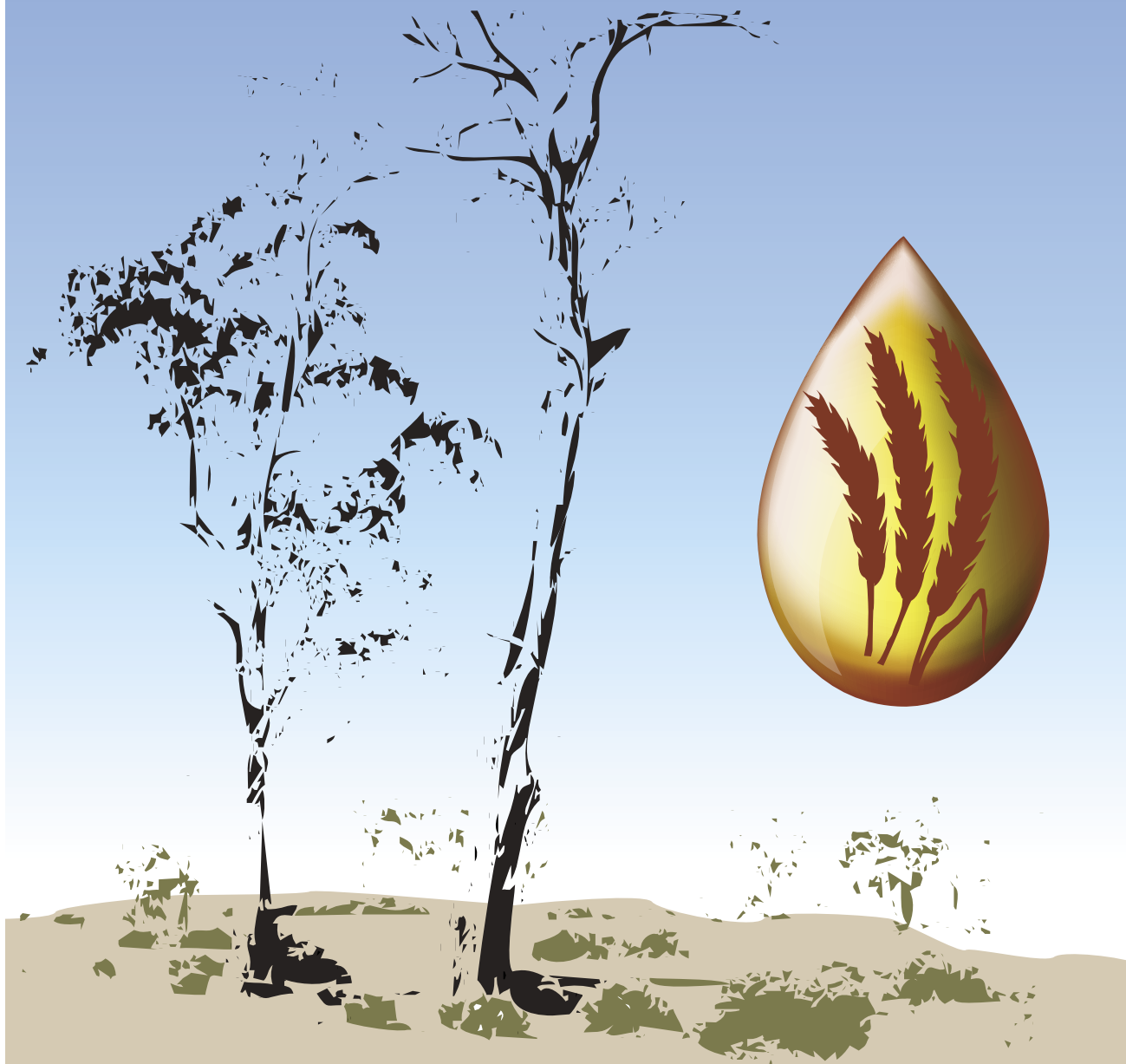
Department of Agriculture and Food



# Fuelling Food in WA

## *How will we eat when oil runs low?*

### At the University Club, UWA, Friday 3rd October 2008



The era of cheap oil is coming to an end as the world's oil production peaks.

Years of low transport costs have encouraged the food industry to buy from more distant suppliers and produce foods in distant factories. The resources boom has pushed labour costs up, further encouraging food production and processing to move elsewhere.

Now, more than 70% of our food is imported from the eastern states and overseas, while more than 70% of the food we produce is exported.

As oil prices rise, how much food can WA farmers produce? Can we go on paying freight costs? Will new food processing factories open? Should the government initiate a much stronger buy local campaign? Will we change to a lower carbon diet?

