

Soybean campaigner turns up the heat

**A visiting professor tells
CAMILLE GUY
about his concern over
the sale of food
containing soybean.**

THE promotion of soy products as health foods is being compared with cigarette advertising at the turn of the century.

The analogy is made by physiology professor Reg Morgan of the University of Western Australia who, along with some New Zealand scientists, wants authorities here to warn parents that using soy infant formula may put their babies' health at risk.

The Ministry of Health has issued no such warning, but a dramatic decline in supermarket sales of soy formula suggests that many parents are avoiding the product.

Morgan, who has been in New Zealand renewing contact with his colleagues, spoke to the *New Zealand Herald* about his concerns, especially over the promotion of soy milk as an alternative to cow's milk.

"In my lectures I warn young people they may be drinking a cocktail of oestrogens and other nasties. But the babies are the ones I am scared about — the newborns who take soy formula from birth."

Morgan worries that soy formula may affect a baby's natural hormone levels.

"I don't think you should modify those because there is a very precise pattern from birth until puberty. I would be scared that any modification would modulate their sexual development."



Professor Morgan ... soy toxins are very active and scary stuff.