



May 2008

## **FACT SHEET**

### **Record of GMO and GM Product Dealings**

Openness and transparency are features of the *Gene Technology Act 2000* (the Act). The Act requires the Gene Technology Regulator (the Regulator) to maintain a record of approved genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and genetically modified (GM) product dealings. The purpose of the Record of GMO and GM Product Dealings (the GMO Record) is to provide the Australian public with ready access to information about GMOs and GM products being used in Australia.

The GMO Record contains information on all dealings with GMOs in Australia that have been approved by the Regulator, and information on GM products approved by other product regulators. The GMO record is available on the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) website at <http://www.ogtr.gov.au/gmorec/index.htm>

The GMO Record contains information about:

- all licences for dealings involving the intentional release (DIR) of a GMO into the Australian environment;
- all licences for dealings NOT involving the intentional release (DNIR) of a GMO into the environment;
- all Inadvertent Dealing licences;
- all notified notifiable low risk dealings (NLRDs);
- dealings on the GMO Register;
- dealings specified in an Emergency Dealing Determination (EDD); and
- GM Products approved by other regulatory agencies and notified to the Gene Technology Regulator.

A 'dealing' with a GMO is broadly defined and includes research, manufacture, production, propagation, import, transport and disposal of a GMO.

Information declared Confidential Commercial Information by the Regulator is not included in the GMO Record.

The GMO Record is divided into separate sections for each of the classes of dealings. GM Product records are further divided according to the regulatory agency which has approved products which are GMOs or are derived from GMOs: for food, Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ); for human therapeutics, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA); for pesticides and veterinary medicines, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA); and for industrial chemicals, the National Industrial Chemicals Notification & Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).