**Quarterly activities report for October – December 2022**

The quarterly activities include details of monitoring and compliance activities by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) during the quarter.

**Monitoring of GMO Dealings involving Intentional Release (DIR)**

During the quarter the OGTR inspected **eight** GM plant field trial sites **(Table 1).**

* Current field trial sites - of the **nine** sites current in the quarter, **four** were inspected.
* Post-harvest field trial sites - of the **ten** sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in the quarter, **four** were inspected.
* The sites inspected in Queensland and Western Australia were selected as routine inspections.

Table 1 – Summary of inspection activities of GM crop field trials for the October – December 2022 quarter.

| **Licence Holder** | **Licence Number** | **GM Crop** | **Site location (crop status**1**)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monsanto Australia Pty Ltd | DIR 164 | Canola | WA (3 C) |
| The University of Queensland | DIR 153 | Sorghum | Qld (4 PH) |
| The University of Queensland | DIR 189 | Sorghum | Qld (1 C) |
| **Total** |  |  | **9** |

**Monitoring of GMO Dealings Not involving Intentional Release (DNIR), certified facilities and DIR clinical and veterinary trials**

During the quarter, the OGTR inspected **two** organisations holding certified facilities (**Table 2)** and **one** DIR clinical trial (**Table 3**).

Table 2 – Summary of organisations and facility types that the OGTR inspected for the October – December 2022 quarter.

| **Organisation** | **Physical Containment (PC) level** | **Number of facilities monitored** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| La Trobe University | PC2 Laboratory  PC2 Invertebrate Facility  PC2 Animal Facility  PC2 Aquatic Facility | 1  1  3  1 |
| Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions | PC2 Plant Facility  PC3 Laboratory | 3  1 |
| **Total** |  | **10** |

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PH = post-harvest site; C = current site

Table 3 – Summary of inspection activities for DNIR licences, DIR clinical and veterinary trial licences for the October – December 2022 quarter.

| **Licence holder** | **Licence number** |
| --- | --- |
| PPD Australia Pty Ltd | DIR 185 |

**Practice Reviews, Audits and Investigations**

The Monitoring and Compliance section may initiate practice reviews in response to observations made during earlier monitoring activities, or to follow up incident reports or to assess the effectiveness of systems used by licence holders and IBC(s). The objective is to determine if licence conditions can be, and are being, effectively implemented.

During the October – December 2022 quarter the OGTR continued its program of practice reviews, undertaking meetings with:

* The University of Melbourne (DNIR 654) – Understanding Coronavirus infection and disease, as part of the practice review into the ‘*Preparedness of accredited organisations to undertake licenced dealings not involving intentional release*’.

No audits and no investigations were undertaken during the quarter.

**Other activities**

During the October – December 2022 quarter the Monitoring and Compliance section:

* Attended the Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators neTwork (AELERT) 2022 Conference.

**Monitoring and Compliance Findings**

Findings from routine monitoring, auditing and investigations, and related enforcement activities, are provided in the Regulator’s Annual Report in accordance with section 136 of the *Gene Technology Act 2000*.