

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	1
	PC2 Invertebrate Facility	1
	PC2 Animal Facility	3
	PC2 Aquatic Facility	1
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions	PC2 Plant Facility	3
	PC3 Laboratory	1
Total		10

¹ 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*.