



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health and Aged Care**

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

16 February 2024

**Notification of decision on application DIR 199 from Queensland University of Technology for the commercial release of GM banana plants**

The Regulator has issued licence DIR 199 to Queensland University of Technology (QUT), authorising the commercial release of banana genetically modified (GM) for disease resistance.

The release is authorised to take place throughout Australia. The GM banana plants and products derived from the GM banana plants may enter general commerce, including use in human food and animal feed.

The Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) and the licence were finalised taking into account input received during consultation with the public, State and Territory governments, Australian Government agencies, the Minister for the Environment, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee and local councils. The Regulator thanks submitters for their contributions.

Submissions are summarised in Appendix B and Appendix C of the RARMP, together with information about how the issues raised relating to risks to human health and safety or the environment were considered in preparing and finalising the RARMP.

The finalised RARMP concludes that this commercial release poses negligible risks to people and the environment and does not require specific risk treatment measures. However general licence conditions have been imposed to ensure ongoing oversight of the release.

The finalised RARMP, a summary of the RARMP, the licence and Questions and Answers about this decision can be obtained online from the [DIR 199](#) page of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's (OGTR) website or requested via the contacts detailed below.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) is a statutory agency responsible for maintaining the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code. FSANZ has approved this GM banana for sale as a food in Australia and New Zealand. The GM bananas and any derived food products are subject to mandatory GM labelling. More information is available on the [FSANZ website](#).

**Office of the Gene Technology Regulator**

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