



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

16 May 2024

Notification of decision on application DIR 203 from Monsanto Australia Pty Ltd for the limited and controlled release of GM cotton

The Regulator has issued licence DIR 203 to Monsanto Australia Pty Ltd, authorising the limited and controlled release (field trial) of cotton genetically modified (GM) for herbicide tolerance and insect resistance.

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 A and Appendix B 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 finalising the RARMP.

The finalised RARMP concludes that this field trial poses negligible risks to the health and safety of people and the environment, thus it does not require specific risk treatment measures. However, licence conditions have been imposed to limit the size, location and duration of the release and to restrict spread and persistence of the GMOs and their genetic material in the environment, as these were important considerations for the RARMP.

The finalised RARMP, a summary of the RARMP, the licence and Questions and Answers about this decision can be obtained online from the [DIR 203](#) page of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's (OGTR) website or requested via the contacts detailed below. The interactive map showing the locations of field trial sites will be updated on the [OGTR website](#) once the GM cotton is planted.

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