14 October 2025

Notification of decision on application DIR 216 from Bayer CropScience Pty Ltd (Bayer) for the commercial release of a genetically modified cotton

The Regulator has issued licence DIR 216 to Bayer CropScience Pty Ltd, authorising the commercial release of cotton genetically modified (GM) for insect resistance and herbicide tolerance.

The release is authorised to take place throughout Australia. The GM cotton and products derived from the GM cotton 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, State and Territory governments, Australian Government agencies, the Minister for the Environment, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee, local councils and the public. The Regulator thanks submitters for their contributions.

Submissions are summarised in Appendix C and Appendix D 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 <u>DIR 216</u> page of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's (OGTR) website or requested via the contacts detailed below.

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