

Quarterly activities report for April – June 2018

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 **nine GM plant field trial sites** (Table 1). The inspections comprised:

- Current field trial sites – Of the **24** sites current in the quarter, **six** were inspected (one site was inspected twice in this quarter). A number of sites in Burdekin and the Lockyer Valley site had never been visited before by OGTR and were selected for routine announced inspections to assess compliance with licence conditions.
- Post-harvest field trial sites – Of the **57** sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in the quarter, **three** were inspected. The site in Horsham was selected for routine announced inspections due to the fact that it had not been previously inspected. Sites in Burdekin were selected due to proximity to sites already selected for inspection.

Table 1 – Summary of inspection activities of GM crop field trials for the April – June 2018 quarter.

Licence holder	Licence Number	GM Crop	Site location (crop status ¹)
Nuseed Australia Pty Ltd	DIR-149	Indian Mustard	Horsham (1PH)
Sugar Research Australia Limited	DIR-129	Sugarcane	Burdekin (5C)
University of Queensland	DIR-135	Sugarcane	Burdekin (2PH)
	DIR-153	Sorghum	Lockyer Valley (1C)

¹ C = current site, PH = post-harvest site.

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

During the quarter OGTR inspected **six** organisations holding certified facilities (**Table 2**) and **one** undertaking DNIR licences (**Table 3**). OGTR did not undertake any inspections of DIR clinical trials in the quarter.

Table 2 – Summary of organisations and facility types that the OGTR inspected for the April – June 2018 quarter.

Organisation	Physical Containment (PC) level	Number of facilities monitored
Australian National University	PC2 Invertebrate	2
	PC2 Plant	2
	PC2 Laboratory	2
Deakin University	PC2 Aquatic	1
	PC2 Animal	1
Queensland Health Forensic and Scientific Services ²	PC4 Facility	1
	PC3 Laboratory	2
Queensland University of Technology	PC2 Laboratory	7
South Australian Research and Development Institute	PC2 Laboratory	1
	PC2 Plant	1
University of Adelaide	PC2 Laboratory	1
Total		21

Table 3 – Summary of inspection activities for DNIR licences and DIR clinical trial licences for the April – June 2018 quarter.

Licence holder	Licence number
Australian National University	DNIR-087
	DNIR-192
	DNIR-553

² Two facilities were subject to joint inspections with the Contained Dealing Section for re-certification

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. The objective is to determine if licence conditions can be, and are being, effectively implemented.

During the April – June 2018 quarter OGTR continued its program of Practice Reviews and visited:

- The University of Adelaide, as part of the Practice Review into *Transport, storage and waste disposal*; and
- The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (Victoria) proposed trial site for DIR-160 as part of the Practice Review into *Preparedness of accredited organisations to undertake a limited and controlled release*.

Audits of seed breeding companies were conducted in Adelaide reviewing their quality assurance processes as part of the OGTR Low Level Presence Strategy. These audits of the industry are ongoing and will be reported in the annual report.

Monitoring and Compliance Findings

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