

## Quarterly activities report for January – March 2017

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 OGTR inspected **10 GM plant field trial sites** (Table 1). The inspections comprised:

**Current field trial sites:** Of the **30** sites current in the quarter, **four** were inspected. This represents a monitoring rate of **13 per cent** of all current sites for the quarter.

**Post-harvest field trial sites:** Of the **67** sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in the quarter, **six** were inspected. This represents an inspection rate of **nine per cent** of all sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in this quarter.

Table 1 – Summary of inspection activities of GM crop field trials for the January – March 2017 quarter.

Licence holder	Licence Number	GM Crop	Site location (crop status <sup>1</sup> )
Sugar Research Australia Limited	DIR 129	Sugarcane	Hinchinbrook (2C)
Queensland University of Technology	DIR 109	Banana	Cassowary Coast (1C)
The University of Adelaide	DIR 128	Wheat and Barley	Marion (2P)
Nuseed Pty Ltd	DIR 123	Canola	Horsham (4P) Ballarat (1C)

<sup>1</sup>C = current site, P = post-harvest site

### Monitoring of GMO Dealings Not involving Intentional Release (DNIR) and certified facilities

During the quarter OGTR inspected **six** organisations holding certified facilities (Table 2) and **one** organisation undertaking DNIR licences (Table 3).

Table 2 – Summary of organisations and facility types that the OGTR inspected for the January – March 2017 quarter.

Organisation	Physical Containment (PC) level	Number of facilities monitored
James Cook University, Qld	PC3 Laboratory	1

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Physical Containment (PC) level</b>	<b>Number of facilities monitored</b>
Defence Science and Technology Organisation – Melbourne, Vic	PC3 Laboratory	1
The University of Queensland, Qld	PC2 Large Scale	1
	PC2 Laboratory	8
The University of Adelaide, SA	PC2 Plant	2
	PC2 Laboratory	2
QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Qld	PC3 Laboratory	1
The University of Melbourne, Vic	PC2 Animal	1
	PC2 Laboratory	1
Australian Genome Research Facility, SA	PC2 Plant	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>19</b>

Table 3 – Summary of inspection activities for DNIR licences for the January – March 2017 quarter.

<b>Licence holder</b>	<b>Licence Number</b>
The University of Melbourne, Vic	DNIR 525

### **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.

One Practice Review was conducted during the January – March 2017 quarter covering Dryland cotton in Narrabri, NSW. This review will be reported in the annual report.

Audits of seed breeding companies were conducted in South Australia 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.

### **Other activities**

Monitoring and Compliance staff facilitated a visit by an Indian delegation and met with various state and territory stakeholders in regards to GMO regulation. Field trials in

Bundaberg, Qld were visited as well as contained facilities in Brisbane, Qld and Melbourne, Vic.

### **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*.