

Quarterly activities report for October – December 2016

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

Current field trial sites: Of the **44** sites current in the quarter, **four** were inspected. This represents a monitoring rate of **nine per cent** of all current sites for the quarter.

Post-harvest field trial sites: Of the **70** sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in the quarter, **seven** were inspected. This represents an inspection rate of **10 per cent** of all sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in this quarter.

Eight other field trial sites were visited for purposes other than routine monitoring inspections^{2,3}.

Table 1 – Summary of inspection activities of GM crop field trials for the October – December 2016 quarter.

Licence holder	Licence Number	GM Crop	Site location (crop status ¹)
Bayer CropScience Pty Ltd	DIR 113	Cotton	Toowoomba (2P)
	DIR 133	Cotton	Toowoomba (1P)
Monsanto Australia Ltd	DIR 120	Cotton	Gunnedah (1C) ²
Monsanto Australia Ltd	DIR 120	Cotton	Narrabri (1C,1P) ²
Victorian Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources	DIR 142	Wheat	Horsham (1C)
The Victorian Department of Primary Industries	DIR 047	White clover	Hamilton (1P)
The University of Adelaide	DIR 102	Wheat and Barley	Corrigin (1P)
	DIR 128	Wheat and Barley	Katanning (1C,1P) Merredin (2C,1P)
Go Resources Pty Ltd	DIR 131	Safflower	Narrabri (1C,1P) ²

Licence holder	Licence Number	GM Crop	Site location (crop status ¹)
CSIRO	DIR 111	Wheat and Barley	Ginninderra (1C,2P) ³

¹C = current site, P = post-harvest site

²As part of Regulator's familiarisation with field trial sites and interactions with stakeholders, Monitoring and Compliance staff accompanied her to a dryland cotton trial site at Gunnedah and two other cotton trial sites at Narrabri, all operated by Monsanto Australia Ltd. Also at Narrabri, the team visited safflower field trial sites operated by Go Resources Pty Ltd.

³The Monitoring and Compliance staff also accompanied two University of Canberra Graduates to CSIRO's wheat and barley trial site in the ACT and a PC2 facility as part of the Graduates' credit accruing work place arrangements with the OGTR.

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**); along with **four** organisations undertaking DNIR licences and **one** organisation undertaking a DIR clinical trial (**Table 3**).

One other organisation was visited for purposes other than routine monitoring inspections³.

Table 2 – Summary of organisations and facility types that the OGTR inspected for the October – December 2016 quarter.

Organisation	Physical Containment (PC) level	Number of facilities monitored
University of New South Wales, NSW	PC3 facility	1
Westmead Institute for Medical Research, NSW	PC2 facility	1
	PC3 facility	1
Intervet Australia Pty Ltd, VIC	PC2 large scale facility	1
Nuseed Pty Ltd, NSW	PC2 plant facility	3
	PC2 facility	4
Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, VIC	PC2 animal facility	1
CSIRO	PC2 plant facility	1 ³
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, VIC	PC2 facility	1

Organisation	Physical Containment (PC) level	Number of facilities monitored
Total		14

Table 3 – Summary of inspection activities for DNIR licences and DIR clinical trial licences for October – December 2016 quarter.

Licence holder	Licence Number
University of New South Wales, NSW	DNIR 543
	DNIR 538
Intervet Australia Pty Ltd, VIC	DNIR 301
Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, VIC	DNIR 565
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, VIC	DNIR 460
Clinical Network Services Pty Ltd	DIR 140

Practice Reviews

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 such Practice Review was conducted during the October - December 2016 quarter covering Monsanto's DIR 120 site 15. This review concluded in the following quarter.

There were no audits and investigations completed in the quarter.

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*.