



Australian Government

Department of Health

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

Licence for dealings involving an intentional release of a GMO into the environment

Licence No.: DIR 156

Licence holder: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University

Title: Limited and controlled release of buffalo grass genetically modified for herbicide tolerance and dwarf phenotype

Issued: 11 April 2018

More information about the decision to issue this licence is contained in the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan prepared in connection with the assessment of the application for the licence. This document can be obtained from the [Office of the Gene Technology Regulator website](#) or by telephoning the Office on 1800 181 030.

Gene Technology Regulation in Australia

Australia's gene technology regulatory system operates as part of an integrated legislative framework. The *Gene Technology Act 2000* (Cth) and corresponding state and territory legislation form a substantial part of a nationally consistent regulatory system controlling activities involving genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

This licence is issued by the Gene Technology Regulator in accordance with the *Gene Technology Act 2000* and, as applicable, Corresponding State Law.

The Gene Technology Regulator is required to consult with, and take into account advice from, a range of key stakeholders, including other regulatory authorities, on risks to human health and safety and to the environment in assessing applications for dealings involving the intentional release of GMOs into the Australian environment.

Other agencies that also regulate GMOs or GM products include Food Standards Australia New Zealand, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, Therapeutic Goods Administration, National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. Dealings conducted under any licence issued by the Regulator may also be subject to regulation by one or more of these agencies. It is recommended that the licence holder consult the relevant agency (or agencies) about their regulatory requirements.

Dealings permitted by this licence may also be subject to the operation of State legislation declaring areas to be GM, GM free, or both, for marketing purposes.

The licence authorises the licence holder and persons covered by the licence to conduct specified dealings with the genetically modified organism(s) listed in Attachment A of this licence.

Note about where dealings with GMOs are being undertaken pursuant to this licence

Information about where the GMOs have been planted pursuant to this licence can be accessed on the [OGTR website](#).

Interpretations and definitions

1. In this licence:

- (a) unless defined otherwise, words and phrases used have the same meaning as they do in the Act and the Regulations;
- (b) words importing a gender include any other gender;
- (c) words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular;
- (d) words importing persons include a partnership and a body whether corporate or otherwise;
- (e) references to any statute or other legislation (whether primary or subordinate) are a reference to a statute or other legislation of the Commonwealth of Australia as amended or replaced from time to time and equivalent provisions, if any, in corresponding State law, unless the contrary intention appears;
- (f) where any word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or other grammatical form in respect of that word has a corresponding meaning;
- (g) specific conditions prevail over standard conditions to the extent of any inconsistency.

2. In this licence:

'Act' means the *Gene Technology Act 2000* (Commonwealth) or the corresponding State law under which this licence is issued.

'Bare Fallow' means land where no plants are grown intentionally, and the few plants that may grow unintentionally do not impede identification of Buffalo grass.

'Buffalo grass' means plants of the species *Stenotaphrum secundatum*.

'Clean' (or **'Cleaned'**) means, as the case requires:

- (a) in relation to an area specified in this licence as requiring Cleaning, the Destruction of the GMOs in that area, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Regulator; or
- (b) in relation to Equipment, the removal and/or Destruction of the GMOs, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Regulator.

'Contingency Plan' means a written plan detailing measures to be taken in the event of the unintended presence of the GMOs outside an area that must be inspected. A Contingency Plan must include procedures to:

- (a) ensure the Regulator is notified immediately if the licence holder becomes aware of the event; and
- (b) recover and/or Destroy the GMOs; and
- (c) inspect for and Destroy any Volunteers that may exist as a result of the event.

'Destroy', (or **'Destroyed'** or **'Destruction'**) means, as the case requires, killed by one or more of the following methods:

- (a) manual uprooting;
- (b) treatment with herbicide;
- (c) burning/incineration;
- (d) autoclaving;
- (e) a method approved in writing by the Regulator.

Note: 'As the case requires' has the effect that, depending on the circumstances, one or more of these techniques may not be appropriate. For example, in the case of plants with mature seed heads still attached, treatment with herbicide would not be appropriate as it would not destroy viable seeds.

'Equipment' includes, but is not limited to, lawn mowers, spray irrigation equipment, transport equipment (e.g. bags, containers), clothing and tools.

'Flowering' is taken to begin when any plant of the class of plants referred to in a particular condition first flowers, and is taken to end when all plants in the class of plants no longer have flowers.

'GM' means genetically modified.

'GMOs' means the genetically modified organisms that are the subject of the dealings authorised by this licence. GMOs include live plants, stolons that are able to grow into live plants, and viable seed.

'Harvest' means removal of the GMOs from the Planting Area.

'Isolation Zone' means an area of land extending outwards at least 28 m in all directions from the outer edge of the Monitoring Zone, as indicated in Figure 1.

'Logbook' means a written or electronic record containing information required to be collected and maintained by this licence and which is able to be presented to the Regulator on request.

'Monitoring Zone' means an area of land extending outwards 2 m from the edge of the Planting Area, as indicated in Figure 1. Land defined as a Monitoring Zone while the field trial is in place continues to be defined as a Monitoring Zone until Sign-off.

'OGTR' means the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator.

'Personal Information' means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable:

- (a) whether the information or opinion is true or not; and
- (b) whether the information or opinion is recorded in a material form or not.

'Planting Area' means an area of land where the GMOs and non-GM Buffalo grass are planted and grown pursuant to this licence.

'Plant Material' means any part of the GM or non-GM Buffalo grass plants grown at a Planting Area, whether viable or not, or any product of these plants.

'Regulations' means the Gene Technology Regulations 2001 (Commonwealth) or the corresponding State law under which this licence is issued.

'Regulator' means the Gene Technology Regulator.

'Sign-off' means a notice in writing from the Regulator, in respect of an area, that post-harvest obligations no longer apply in respect of that area.

'Volunteers' means GM or non-GM Buffalo grass plants that have not been intentionally grown.

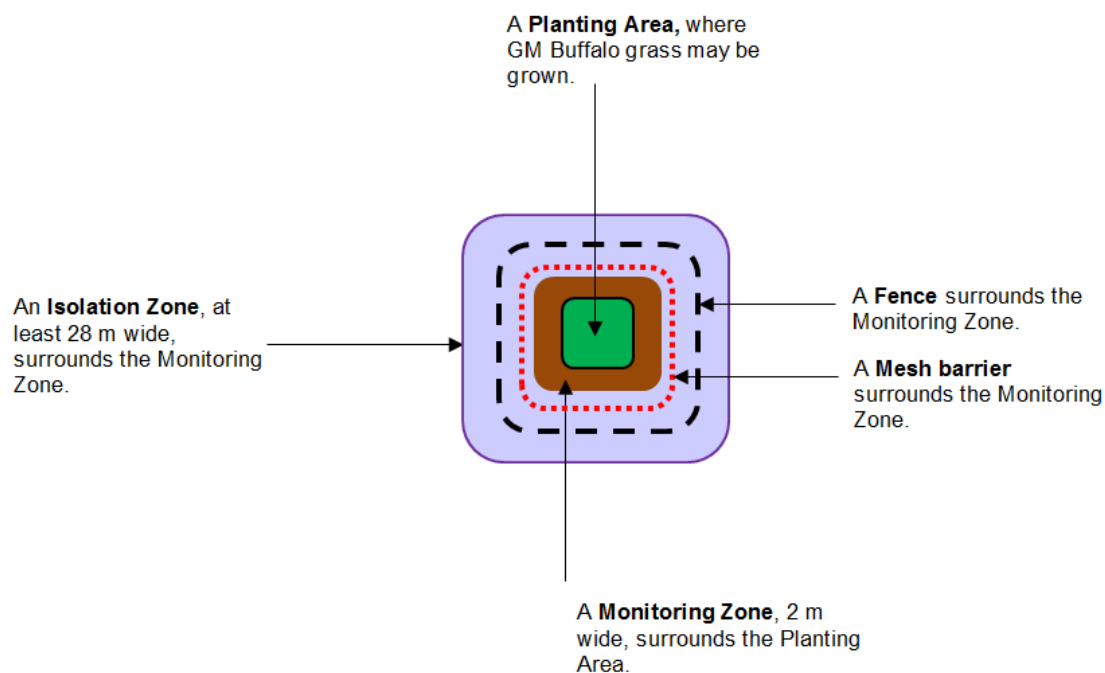


Figure 1. Diagram showing the relationships between the Planting Area, Monitoring Zone and Isolation Zone.

General conditions and obligations

3. This licence does not authorise dealings with GMOs that are otherwise prohibited as a result of the operation of State legislation declaring areas to be GM, GM free, or both, for marketing purposes.
4. This licence remains in force until it is suspended, cancelled or surrendered. No dealings with GMOs are authorised during any period of suspension.
5. The holder of this licence ('the licence holder') is the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University.
6. The persons covered by this licence are the licence holder and employees, agents or contractors of the licence holder and other persons who are, or have been, engaged or otherwise authorised by the licence holder to undertake any activity in connection with the dealings authorised by this licence.
7. The dealings authorised by this licence are to conduct experiments with the GMOs, grow the GMOs, transport and dispose of the GMOs, and possession, supply or use of the GMOs in the course of any of these dealings.

Obligations of the Licence Holder

8. The licence holder must notify the Regulator in writing as soon as practically possible if any of the contact details of the project supervisor change from those notified in the licence application or subsequently.

Note: address correspondence to ogtr.applications@health.gov.au.

Prior to issuing a licence, the Regulator considers suitability of the applicant to hold a licence. The following conditions address ongoing suitability of the licence holder.

9. The licence holder must, at all times, remain an accredited organisation in accordance with the Act and must comply with its instrument of accreditation.

10. The licence holder must:

- (a) inform the Regulator immediately in writing, of:
 - i. any relevant conviction of the licence holder occurring after the commencement of this licence; and
 - ii. any revocation or suspension of a licence or permit held by the licence holder under a law of the Australian Government, a State or a foreign country, being a law relating to the health and safety of people or the environment; and
 - iii. any event or circumstances occurring after the commencement of this licence that would affect the capacity of the holder of this licence to meet the conditions in it; and
- (b) provide any information related to the licence holder's ongoing suitability to hold a licence, if requested, within the stipulated timeframe.

11. The licence holder must be able to access and control the Planting Area, Monitoring Zone, Isolation Zone and approved facilities (if any) to the extent necessary to comply with this licence, for the duration of the licence.

The following conditions seek to ensure that persons conducting the dealings are aware of the licence conditions and appropriate processes are in place to inform people of their obligations.

12. Prior to conducting any dealings with the GMOs, the licence holder must provide to the Regulator:

- (a) names of all organisations and persons or functions or positions of the persons who will be covered by the licence, with a description of their responsibilities; and
Note: Examples of functions or positions are 'project supervisor', 'site manager', 'farm labourer' etc.
- (b) detail of how the persons covered by the licence will be informed of licence conditions; and
- (c) detail of how the licence holder will access and control the Planting Area, Monitoring Zone, Isolation Zone and approved facilities (if any) for the duration of the licence; and
Note: this may include a description of any contracts, agreements, or other enforceable arrangements.
- (d) written methodology to reliably detect the GMOs or the presence of the genetic modifications in a recipient organism; and
- (e) a Contingency Plan to respond to inadvertent presence of the GMOs outside an area that must be inspected.

13. Any changes to the information provided under the immediately preceding condition must be communicated in writing to the Regulator within 14 days of the changes occurring.

14. The licence holder must inform any person covered by this licence, to whom a particular condition of the licence applies, of the following:

- (a) the particular condition (including any variations of it); and
- (b) the cancellation or suspension of the licence; and
- (c) the surrender of the licence.

15. The licence holder must not permit a person covered by this licence to conduct any dealing with the GMOs unless:

- (a) the person has been informed of any applicable licence conditions, including any variation of them; and

- (b) the licence holder has obtained from the person a signed and dated statement that the person:
 - i. has been informed by the licence holder of the licence conditions including any variation of them; and
 - ii. has understood and agreed to be bound by the licence conditions, or variation.

16. The licence holder must:

- (a) inform the persons covered by this licence that any Personal Information relevant to the administration and/or enforcement of the licence may be released to the Regulator; and
- (b) provide the Regulator, if requested, with copies of the signed and dated statements referred to in the immediately preceding condition.

Provision of new information to the Regulator

Licence conditions are based on the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan developed in relation to the application using information available at the time of assessment. The following condition requires that any new information that may affect the risk assessment or risk management is communicated to the Regulator.

17. The licence holder must inform the Regulator if the licence holder becomes aware of:

- (a) additional information as to any risks to the health and safety of people, or to the environment, associated with the dealings authorised by the licence; or
- (b) any contraventions of the licence by a person covered by the licence; or
- (c) any unintended effects of the dealings authorised by the licence.

Note: The Act requires, for the purposes of the above condition, that:

- (a) *the licence holder will be taken to have become aware of additional information of a kind mentioned in paragraph 17(a) if he or she was reckless as to whether such information existed; and*
- (b) *the licence holder will be taken to have become aware of contraventions, or unintended effects, of a kind mentioned in paragraph 17 (b) or 17(c) if he or she was reckless as to whether such contraventions had occurred, or such unintended effects existed.*

Note: Contraventions of the licence may occur through the action or inaction of a person. For example if it is a condition of the licence that Volunteers are Destroyed prior to Flowering and a Volunteer flowers, then the person responsible for controlling Volunteers will have contravened that licence condition.

18. If the licence holder is required to inform the Regulator under the immediately preceding condition, the Regulator must be informed without delay.

Note: An example of informing without delay is contact made within a day of the incident via the OGTR free call phone number 1800 181 030, which provides emergency numbers for incidents that occur out of business hours. Notification without delay will allow the Regulator to conduct a risk assessment on the incident, determine appropriate risk management measures and attend the location, if required.

19. If the licence holder informs the Regulator under the immediately preceding condition and the Regulator requests further information, such information must be provided in a manner, and within the time period, stipulated by the Regulator.

Obligations of persons covered by the licence

20. Persons covered by this licence must not deal with the GMOs except as expressly permitted by this licence.

21. If a person is authorised by this licence to deal with the GMOs and a particular condition of this licence applies to the dealing by that person, the person must allow the Regulator, or a person authorised by the Regulator, to enter premises where the dealing is being undertaken, for the purposes of auditing or monitoring the dealing.

Limits and control measures

Limits on the release

The following licence conditions maintain the risk assessment context within which the application was assessed, by imposing limits on where and when the GMOs may be grown, and on other activities that can be undertaken.

22. The only plants that may be intentionally grown at a Planting Area are:

- (a) the GMOs covered by this licence as described in Attachment A of the licence; and
- (b) non-GM Buffalo grass plants.

23. Planting and growing of the GMOs may only occur within the following limits:

Period	Maximum number of Planting Areas per year	Maximum size of Planting Area	Local Government Area in which the Planting Area may be located
April 2018 – April 2019	1	200 m ²	Whittlesea

24. Plant Material must not be used, sold or otherwise disposed of for any purpose which would involve or result in its use as food for humans or feed for animals.

Control measures

The following licence conditions maintain the risk assessment context within which the application was assessed by restricting spread and persistence of the GMOs.

Controls to minimise pollen, stolon and seed dispersal during cultivation

25. The outer edge of the Planting Area must be at least 100 m away from natural waterways.

Note: natural waterways include a river, creek, stream, watercourse or inlet of the sea. It can be permanent or ephemeral.

26. Any extreme weather event that is expected to affect or has already affected a Planting Area or associated areas, while the GMOs are growing or while the Planting Area is subject to inspection requirements, must be notified in writing to the Regulator as soon as practically and reasonably possible.

Note: The Contingency Plan must be implemented if the GMOs are detected outside areas under inspection (Condition 49).

27. Non-GM Buffalo grass plants grown in the Planting Area must be handled as if they were the GMOs.

28. The Planting Area must be surrounded by a 2 m wide Monitoring Zone that is kept Bare Fallow. Any Buffalo grass in the Monitoring Zone must be Destroyed as soon as possible.

29. The Monitoring Zone must be surrounded by an Isolation Zone in which no Buffalo grass must be present and which must be maintained in a manner that permits identification of Buffalo grass.

30. The Monitoring Zone must be surrounded by a fence with lockable gates capable of restricting unauthorised access and excluding livestock.

31. The Monitoring Zone must be surrounded by a mesh barrier to prevent water dispersal of GM Buffalo grass propagules and to act as a windbreak. There must be no gap between the ground and the mesh barrier and the mesh barrier must be at least 1.5 m in height. The pore size in the mesh barrier must not have a diameter that exceeds 2 mm.

32. To minimise the number of flowers and seeds present in the trial the Buffalo grass plants in the Planting Area must not be permitted to grow taller than 50 mm.

33. Mowing must occur in a manner that minimises dispersal of mowing clippings.

Note: methods to minimise dispersal of mowing clippings include the use of a lawn mower built with a basket to catch grass clippings known as a grass-catcher and avoiding mowing in high winds where possible.

34. After mowing, the Planting Area must be inspected for the presence of mowing clippings and all visible mowing clippings must be collected and Destroyed as soon as possible to prevent dispersal of the GMOs.

Note: If the mowing clippings are transported off the Planting Area for Destruction then transport must comply with the Regulator’s Guidelines for the Transport, Storage and Disposal of GMOs.

35. The Buffalo grass plants in the Planting Area must be irrigated and fertilised as necessary to minimise the induction of flowering.

36. The Buffalo grass plants must be monitored weekly for the presence of intact, fully expanded inflorescences and an estimate of the numbers must be provided to the Regulator.

Note: the estimate can be calculated by counting the number of inflorescences in three representative plots. If the GM Buffalo grass lines show strikingly different flowering behaviours, this should be noted in the report.

37. Any Equipment used in the Planting Area must be Cleaned before removal from the Planting Area.

38. Inspections must be conducted by people trained to recognise Buffalo grass, and actions taken as follows:

Area	Period of inspection	Inspection frequency	Inspect for	Action
(a) Planting Area	First inspection must occur at least 14 days prior to the expected commencement of Flowering of any GMOs*, and inspections must continue until all GMOs in the Planting Area have finished Flowering	At least once every 7 days	(i) The height of the Buffalo grass (ii) Presence of intact and fully expanded inflorescences in the Buffalo grass plants	(i) Mow Buffalo grass to keep its height below 50 mm (ii) Provide the Regulator with an estimate of the number of inflorescences
(b) Monitoring Zone	First inspection must occur 7 days after planting and continue until the GMOs have been Destroyed.	At least once every 7 days	Any plants	Destroy
(c) Isolation Zone	First inspection must occur 14 days prior to the expected commencement of Flowering of any GMOs*, and continue until all GMOs in the Planting Area have finished Flowering	At least once every 7 days	Buffalo grass	Destroy

Area	Period of inspection	Inspection frequency	Inspect for	Action
(d) Fence	First inspection must occur 7 days prior to planting and continue until the GMOs have been Destroyed.	At least once every 14 days	Damage that may permit livestock or unauthorised persons to enter	Repair as soon as practicable
(e) Mesh barrier	First inspection must occur 7 days prior to planting and continue until the GMOs have been Destroyed.	At least once every 7 days	Damage that may permit water dispersal of GM Buffalo grass and/or may affect its function as a windbreak	Repair as soon as practicable

**Condition 51(b) requires the licence holder to provide information to the Regulator on the expected Flowering period, however the inspection period should be based on the observed development of the GMOs, to ensure that inspections commence prior to Flowering of any GMOs.*

Note: Details of any inspection activity must be recorded in a Logbook as detailed in Condition 51(f).

39. All Buffalo grass in the Planting Area must be Destroyed by the end of April 2019.

Controls during processing or experimentation with GMOs

40. If experimentation or analysis with the GMOs is not conducted under a NLRD authorisation, such activities may only be undertaken within:

- (a) the Planting Area before it has been Cleaned; or
- (b) a facility approved in writing by the Regulator.

Note: Dealings conducted under a NLRD authorisation must be assessed by an Institutional Biosafety Committee before commencement, must comply with the requirements of the Regulations, and are not subject to the conditions of this licence.

41. Within a facility approved under the immediately preceding condition, any area that is used for processing, experimentation or analysis of the GMOs must be Cleaned as soon as practicable and before use for any other purpose.

Controls during transport or storage of the GMOs

42. If transport or storage of the GMOs is not conducted under a NLRD authorisation, such activities must:

- (a) only occur to the extent necessary to conduct the dealings permitted by this licence or other valid authorisation; and
- (b) be in accordance with the Regulator's *Guidelines for the Transport, Storage and Disposal of GMOs* for PC2 GM plants as current at the time of transportation or storage; and
- (c) comply with all other conditions of this licence.

Note: Condition 15 requires signed statements for persons transporting or disposing of the GMOs.

43. Methods and procedures used to transport GMOs must be recorded, and must be provided to the Regulator, if requested.

Note: The Contingency Plan must be implemented if the GMOs are detected outside areas under inspection (Condition 49).

Controls regarding the persistence of the GMOs

44. The Planting Area and Monitoring Zone must be Cleaned within 14 days after completion of Harvest.

45. After Cleaning, the Planting Area and associated areas of land must be inspected by people trained to recognise Buffalo grass. Inspections must cover the entirety of areas to be inspected.

Actions must be taken as follows:

Area of land	Period of inspection	Inspection frequency	Inspect for	Action
(a) Planting Area (b) Monitoring Zone (c) Any other area where GMOs have dispersed during planting, growing or Destruction	From the day of completion of Cleaning of the Planting Area and Monitoring Zone, until the Regulator has issued a Sign-off for the area.	At least once every 35 days	Buffalo grass Volunteers	Destroy

46. Details of any inspection activity must be recorded in a Logbook and must include:

- (a) date of the inspections;
- (b) name of the person(s) conducting the inspections;
- (c) details of the experience, training or qualification that enables the person(s) to recognise Buffalo grass, if not already recorded in the Logbook;
- (d) details of areas inspected including current land use;
- (e) details of the developmental stage of the GMOs while they are being grown;
- (f) details of any post-harvest rainfall events, including measurements at or near the area, or any irrigation events including the amount of water applied;
- (g) for post-harvest areas, details of any recent management practices applied (including herbicide applications)

Note: this may include spraying or maintenance measures used to facilitate inspections for Volunteers

- (h) details of any Volunteers observed during post-harvest inspections or land-management activities, including number, developmental stage and approximate position of the Volunteers within each area inspected[⌘];
- (i) date(s) and method(s) of Destruction of any Buffalo grass Volunteers;
- (j) details of any damage and any repairs to the fence and to the mesh barrier surrounding the Monitoring Zone.

[⌘] *Examples of acceptable ways to record the positional information for Volunteers in the Logbook include:*

- *descriptive text*
- *marking on a diagram or*
- *indicating grid references on corresponding map/sketch.*

Note: Details of Inspection activities must be provided to the Regulator (Condition 51(f)).

47. While post-harvest inspection requirements apply to the Planting Area, Monitoring Zone and any associated areas:

- (a) the area must be maintained in a manner appropriate to allow identification of Volunteers;
- (b) the area must not be grazed by livestock; and
- (c) no plants may intentionally be grown in the area unless the plants are agreed to in writing by the Regulator.

48. After Harvest of the Planting Area and prior to an application for Sign-off, the Planting Area and Monitoring Zone must be irrigated at least once every 35 days between October and February each year to promote germination of GM Buffalo grass Volunteers.

Note: A period of natural rainfall may be taken as irrigation only with the agreement of the Regulator. Evidence (such as rainfall measurements, photos etc.) that the rainfall has been sufficient to promote germination should be provided.

Contingency Plan

49. If any unintentional presence of the GMOs is detected outside the areas requiring inspection, the Contingency Plan must be implemented.

Sign off

50. The licence holder may make written application to the Regulator that planting restrictions and inspection requirements no longer apply to the Planting Area and associated areas if:

- (a) all post-harvest inspection activities have been conducted for at least 12 months on these areas;
- (b) conditions have been conducive for germination and detection;
- (c) the Planting Area and Monitoring Zone have been irrigated as required under condition 48; and
- (d) no Volunteers that are GMOs have been detected on the Planting Area and Monitoring Zone in the most recent nine month inspection period

Note: The Regulator will take into account the management and inspection history for the Planting Area and associated areas, including post-harvest irrigation, rainfall, application of herbicide and occurrence of Volunteers, in deciding whether or not further inspections are required to manage persistence of the GMOs.

Reporting and documentation

The following licence conditions are imposed to demonstrate compliance with other conditions, facilitate monitoring of compliance by staff of the OGTR, and emphasise appropriate selection of the Planting Area.

51. Notifications must be sent to the Regulator as follows:

Notice	Content of notice	Timeframe
(a) Before the trial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Names of all organisations and persons who will be covered by the licence, with a description of their responsibilities, ii. Detail of how the persons covered by the licence will be informed of licence conditions, iii. Detail of how the licence holder will access and control the Planting Area, Monitoring Zone, Isolation Zone and approved facilities (if any) for the duration of the licence, iv. Written methodology to reliably detect the GMOs or the presence of the genetic modifications in a recipient organism, v. A management plan to be implemented in the event of failure of mowing, irrigation and fertilisation to limit flowering. The measures should be designed to prevent gene flow; and vi. A Contingency Plan to respond to inadvertent presence of the GMOs outside an area that must be inspected. 	Prior to planting (to be updated immediately if the notified details change)
(b) Intention to Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Details of the Planting Area including size, GPS coordinates, a street address or other directions and a diagrammatical representation of the site (e.g. Google Maps), ii. Identity of the GMOs to be planted at the Planting Area (e.g. lines or construct details), iii. Date on which the GMOs will be planted, iv. Period when the GMOs are expected to Flower, v. Date of the Harvest, vi. Details on how all areas requiring post-harvest inspections are intended to be used until Sign-off, vii. Details on how inspection activities will be managed, including strategies for the detection and Destruction of Volunteers or Buffalo grass plants growing in the Isolation Zone, and viii. History of how the site has been used for the previous two years. 	At least 7 days prior to planting (to be updated immediately if the notified details change)
(c) Planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Actual date(s) of planting the GMOs, and ii. Any changes to the details provided under part (b) of this condition. 	Within 7 days of any planting
(d) Destruction	Actual date(s) of Destroying the GMOs.	Within 7 days of commencement of any Destruction activities.
(e) Cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Actual date(s) on which any areas needing Cleaning were Cleaned, and ii. Method of Cleaning. 	Within 7 days of completion of any Cleaning
(f) Inspection activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Information recorded in a Logbook as per the inspection requirements of Condition 38(a). ii. Information recorded in a Logbook as per the inspection requirements (Conditions 38(b-e), 46 and 51). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Within 7 days of inspection ii. Within 35 days of inspection

Note: Other reports and documents that may need to be sent to the Regulator are described under Conditions 8, 10, 12, 17 and 26.

Note: Other reports and documents that may need to be sent to the Regulator are listed in Attachment B.

DIR No: 156

Full Title: Limited and controlled release of buffalo grass genetically modified for herbicide tolerance and dwarf phenotype

Organisation Details

Postal address: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University
124 La Trobe Street
Melbourne
Victoria 3000

Phone No: (03) 9925 2000

IBC Details

IBC Name: RMIT Institutional Biosafety Committee

GMO Description

GMOs covered by this licence:

Buffalo grass plants genetically modified by introduction of only the genetic elements listed below.

Parent Organism:

Common Name: Buffalo grass

Scientific Name: *Stenotaphrum secundatum*

Modified traits:

Categories: Herbicide tolerance
Plant development – altered plant architecture

Description: Buffalo grass plants have been genetically modified for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate and for a dwarf growth habit. The GM buffalo grass was generated by biolistic transformation. Only GM buffalo grass lines modified for these traits are authorised for release.

The GM buffalo grass only contains the introduced genetic elements that are listed in Table 1. The introduced regulatory sequences are listed in Table 2.

Purpose of the dealings with the GMOs:

The purpose of the release is to assess the agronomic characteristics of the GM buffalo grass plants under field conditions.

The GM buffalo grass is not permitted to be used for human food or animal feed.

Table 1. Introduced genetic elements in GM buffalo grass

Genetic element	Full name of gene	Source of gene
<i>Resyn-A thal EPSPS</i>	<i>5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (epsps)</i>	<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>
<i>GA 2-Ox 3</i>	<i>gibberellic acid 2-oxidase 3 (ga 2-oxidase 3)</i>	<i>Spinacea oleracea</i>

Table 2. Introduced regulatory sequences in GM buffalo grass

Regulatory sequence	Source
<i>Ubiquitin promoter</i>	<i>Oryza sativa</i>
<i>Actin 1 expression enhancer</i>	<i>Oryza sativa</i>
<i>Alcohol dehydrogenase 1 terminator</i>	<i>Zea mays</i>
<i>GOS2 promoter</i>	<i>Oryza sativa</i>
<i>Histone H1 terminator</i>	<i>Solanum pennellii</i>

ATTACHMENT B

Checklist of documents that must be sent to the Regulator:

When	What	Condition	Timeframe of reporting
Prior to conducting any dealings	Details of persons covered	12 (a)	
	Plan to inform people covered by the licence	12 (b)	
	Plan to ensure control and access to the Site	12 (c)	
	Detection methodology	12 (d)	
	Contingency plan	12 (e)	
Prior to planting	Intention to plant	51 (b)	At least 7 days prior to any planting
Planting	Planting at a Planting Area	51 (c)	Within 7 days of any planting
While growing	Inspections of Planting Area, Monitoring Zone and Isolation Zone	i. 38 (a) ii. 38 (b, c)	i. Within 7 days of each inspection ii. Within 35 days of each inspection
	Inspections of fence and mesh barrier	38 (d, e)	Within 35 days of each inspection
After harvest	Harvesting at a Planting Area	51 (d)	Within 7 days of harvesting
	Post-harvest inspections	46	Within 35 days of each inspection
Any time after issue of the licence	Any changes of the project supervisor contact details	8	As soon as practicable
	Any relevant conviction, any revocation, suspension or cancellation of a relevant permit or any circumstances that may affect compliance with licence conditions	10 (a)	Immediately, if occurs
	Any information relevant to on-going suitability	10 (b)	If and when requested
	Any changes to details provided under conditions 12 (a-e)	13	Within 14 days of the changes
	Signed statements from persons covered under the licence	16 (b)	If and when requested
	Any additional information regarding health and safety of people and the environment, contraventions of this licence or any unintended effects of the dealings authorized by the licence	17	Without delay, after becoming aware
	Extreme weather conditions	26	As soon as practicable, if expected or occurs
	Methods and procedures for transport	43	If and when requested