**Quarterly activities report for July – September 2024**

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

* Current field trial sites – of the **eight** sites current in the quarter, **four** were inspected.
* Post-harvest field trial sites – of the **23** sites subject to post-harvest monitoring in the quarter, **nine** were inspected.

Table 1 – Summary of inspection activities of GM crop field trials for the July – September 2024 quarter.

| **Licence holder** | **Licence Number** | **GM Crop** | **Site location**  **(crop status[[1]](#footnote-1))** | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grasslanz Technology Australia Pty Limited | DIR-176 | White Clover | | VIC (1C)  VIC (1PH) |
| The University of Melbourne | DIR-165 | Wheat | | VIC (1C)  VIC (5PH) |
| Nuseed Pty Ltd | DIR-188 | Canola | | VIC (1C)  VIC (1PH) |
| The University of Adelaide | DIR-201 | Wheat & Barley | | SA (1C) |
| The University of Adelaide | DIR-186 | Wheat & Barley | | SA (2PH) |
| **Total** |  |  | **13** | |

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

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

Table 2 – Summary of organisations and facility types that the OGTR inspected for the July – September 2024 quarter.

| **Organisation** | **Physical Containment (PC) level** | **Number of facilities monitored** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The University of Queensland | PC2 Laboratory  PC2 Animal Facility  PC2 Invertebrate | 9  2  1 |
| Zuellig Pharma SSG Australia Pty Ltd | PC2 Laboratory | 1 |
| **Total** |  | **13** |

Table 3 – Summary of inspection activities for DNIR licences for the July – September 2024 quarter.

| **Licence holder** | **Licence number** |
| --- | --- |
| The University of Queensland | DNIR-518 |
| The University of Queensland | DNIR-616 |
| Novotech (Australia) Pty Limited | DNIR-629 |
| Novotech (Australia) Pty Limited | DNIR-671 |
| Novotech (Australia) Pty Limited | DNIR-683 |

**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. No practice reviews were undertaken during the quarter.

During the July – September 2024 quarter the OGTR continued an audit of Monash University in Victoria.

Audit findings will be reported in the Regulator’s Annual Report once the respective audit has been completed.

**Other Activities**

The 10th National Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Forum was held in Canberra from 16 to 18 September 2024. The forum encourages IBC representatives from Accredited Organisations to engage with each other and the OGTR on topics relevant to the regulation of genetically modified organisms in Australia.

**Monitoring and Compliance Findings**

Findings from routine monitoring, auditing, 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*.

1. C = current site, PH = post-harvest site. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)