



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health and Aged Care**

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

12 March 2025

**Notification of decision on application DIR 209 from the University of Queensland for the limited and controlled release of GM sorghum**

The Regulator has issued licence DIR 209 to the University of Queensland, authorising the limited and controlled release (field trial) of sorghum genetically modified (GM) for altered reproduction from sexual to asexual.

The Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) and the licence were finalised taking into account input received during consultation with the public, State and Territory governments, Australian Government agencies, the Minister for the Environment, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee and local councils. The Regulator thanks submitters for their contributions.

Submissions are summarised in Appendix A and Appendix B of the RARMP, together with information about how the issues raised relating to risks to human health and safety or the environment were considered in finalising the RARMP.

The finalised RARMP concludes that this field trial poses low risks to the health and safety of people and the environment, which can be managed through specific risk treatment measures. Additionally, licence conditions have been imposed to limit the size, location and duration of the release and to restrict spread and persistence of the GMOs and their genetic material in the environment, as these were important considerations for the RARMP.

The finalised RARMP, a summary of the RARMP, the licence and Questions and Answers about this decision can be obtained online from the [DIR 209](#) page of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's (OGTR) website or requested via the contacts detailed below. The interactive map showing the locations of field trial sites will be updated on the [OGTR website](#) once the GM sorghum is planted.

**Office of the Gene Technology Regulator**

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