

ANIMAL HEALTH TESTING AND COLLABORATION UPDATE

Bio-Gene Technology Limited (ASX: BGT, “Bio-Gene” or “the Company”), an agtech development company enabling the next generation of novel insecticides to address insecticide resistance, entered into an evaluation agreement with French animal health company Virbac in June 2017 to explore the use of Bio-Gene’s Flavocide™ technology in potential applications for tick and buffalo fly control in cattle. The agreement provided for Virbac to undertake initial field testing studies using its formulations to trial the product.

Virbac has subsequently undertaken some initial and rudimentary field studies to evaluate Flavocide™ in its formulations, and the Company understands that, as a result of the data arising from these studies, Virbac is unlikely to proceed with developing products with Flavocide™ at this stage.

Bio-Gene’s CEO Richard Jagger commented: “Whilst we understand Virbac is unlikely to progress its testing, Bio-Gene is continuing its wider research program of its platform technology for control of buffalo flies and ticks. As part of that program, Purdue University has already started a study on Flavocide™ efficacy on ticks, and the early data is showing evidence that this molecule has the potential to control ticks, and specifically resistant populations of ticks and flies.

“In addition to the work being undertaken by Purdue University, we also have various other evaluation programs underway exploring efficacy on a wide range of crop pests, grain storage pests, public health vectors and consumer pest applications. Results from these programs are expected over the coming weeks and months. The testing regime continues as quickly as possible, encouraged by continuing results across a range of pests and in particular against those demonstrating resistance to current insecticides.

“There are many reasons why large commercial organisations make the decision to discontinue development work on new molecules. Companies such as Virbac often need to make quick decisions on new projects, which can be based on very limited data. Whilst Virbac’s likely position is disappointing, its opinion does not diminish our commitment to continue our testing regime to develop the range of commercial opportunities offered by Bio-Gene’s technology.

“The information generated by Virbac will be made available to Bio-Gene, and we will be able to use that to further focus our future research. We believe Flavocide™ is still an important opportunity in pest control in ruminants and will continue dialogue with other interested parties for ongoing development and eventual commercialisation.”

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About Bio-Gene Technology Ltd

Bio-Gene is an Australian AgTech development company enabling the next generation of novel insecticides to address the global problems of insecticide resistance and toxicity. Its novel platform technology is based on a naturally occurring class of chemicals known as beta-triketones.

Beta-triketone compounds have demonstrated insecticidal activity (e.g. kill or knock down insects) via a novel mode of action in testing performed to date. This platform may provide multiple potential new solutions for insecticide manufacturers in applications across animal health and crop protection, as well as in public health, and in consumer applications.

The Company's aim is to develop and commercialise a broad portfolio of targeted insect control and management solutions.