

BIO-GENE EXPANDS RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR QCIDETM

- **Additional studies now planned for Qcide™, based on trial results and market feedback**
- **Mosquito studies with Purdue University, USA extended to include Qcide**
- **University of Technology (UTS), Sydney studies to now focus on combinations of Qcide with other natural products to create 'knockdown sprays' targeting flying insects**
- **Study with James Cook University (JCU), Queensland to improve extraction techniques of Qcide oil, attracts a \$50,000 grant through the Innovations Connections program**

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, is pleased to announce a number of scientific developments relating to the evaluation and production of its natural product Qcide.

After presenting Bio-Gene's technology to a number of several key industry companies, the potential applications for Qcide have grown to now include vector control and crop protection, in addition to consumer applications. The Company has expanded its Qcide trial program to gather further data in these market segments, as well as create additional focus on oil extraction from its farming practices.

Work conducted previously at Purdue University on Flavocide™ exploring the efficacy against the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito as well as the synergistic action when combined with other insecticides will be repeated using Qcide.

"Our discussions to date with many major players in the vector control segment have highlighted a significant interest in our natural product as an alternative for the control of mosquitoes," Richard Jagger, Bio-Gene CEO commented, "Demonstrating the effectiveness of our natural product will enable us to now offer two products within each key market sector.

Furthermore, the previous findings relating to the synergistic effects of Flavocide are very exciting, and we hope to see similar effects with Qcide. Ultimately this could make Qcide more efficacious and cost effective when used with other chemistries."

Professor Catherine Hill, Purdue University added: "The need for new, safer products to control mosquitoes and other flying pests of public health, is great and it is a global one. Within the next ten years, we must deliver new actives for continued control of resistant mosquitoes. Purdue is very pleased to work with the natural product technologies developed by Bio-Gene. Our studies with Flavocide suggest efficacy and promise as a combination product that would extend mosquito control. We are excited to expand efficacy studies to include Qcide."

UTS will be conducting studies based on Qcide and incorporating other natural products to further explore the potential for highly effective household sprays.

Peter May, Bio-Gene Executive Director of Research and Development commented: "UTS will be exploring the synergistic effects of Qcide in combination with other natural compounds. Early observations suggest this could allow us to make highly efficient products to control a number of household flying pests such as mosquitoes and flies."

JCU has commenced an engineering program in conjunction with Bio-Gene's contract farmers to find effective ways to increase production from current and future plantations. "Maximising the yield potential from each kilogram of bio-mass that is harvested, will help us to provide cost effective products," Richard Jagger added.

The company is also pleased to announce success in its application for a \$50,000 grant via the Australian Government's Innovations Connections program to assist in undertaking the JCU engineering project.

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About Bio-Gene Technology Limited

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.

About Purdue University

The Department of Entomology at Purdue University in Indiana, USA houses an internationally recognized research program focused on control of insects and ticks of medical and veterinary importance. The discovery and development of new, human-safe insecticides is the primary goal of the program, using bioinformatics, molecular and pharmacological approaches to identify insect-selective chemical leads with potential for development as new mode-of-action insecticides.

About University of Technology Sydney, Science Faculty

UTS Science is a research-driven, relevant, innovative and practical organization, achieving success and impact for its quality teaching and research. UTS academics are experts in their fields with a wealth of knowledge and experience in academia and industry.

About James Cook University (JCU)

JCU is one of the world's leading institutions focused on the tropics and conducts internationally recognised research in areas such as marine sciences, biodiversity, and tropical medicine. Its Cairns campus houses state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities including the Australian Institute of Tropical Health & Medicine (AITHM) and the Australian Tropical Herbarium, which is a joint venture of the CSIRO, Australian & Queensland governments and JCU.