

## KEY COMMERCIAL VALIDATION MILESTONE ACHIEVED IN GRAIN STORAGE

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- **Trial results confirmed that Flavocide™ successfully controlled a key grain storage pest over a nine-month period**
- **Nine months residual control is considered a key industry standard for any new grain protectant and is important for commercial validation**
- **Results were confirmed under field and laboratory conditions**
- **Results deliver an excellent platform for trial program with BASF, Queensland DAF & GRDC**

Bio-Gene Technology Limited (ASX: BGT, 'Bio-Gene' or the 'Company') is delighted with results achieved from the current grain storage trial program. Results confirmed that Flavocide™ continued to demonstrate control over offspring of adult Lesser grain borer over a nine month period in both field and laboratory conditions. Residual control over a nine month period is considered a key industry standard for any new grain protectant to enter the market.

Furthermore, these results deliver an excellent platform for the upcoming trial program in collaboration with BASF, Department of Agriculture & Fisheries, Queensland Government (DAF) and the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC) that was first announced in September 2019. This program aims to determine the optimum combination of Flavocide with other chemical groups to generate commercial products.

Commenting on the results, Bio-Gene CEO, Richard Jagger said: "We are delighted with these results which confirm Flavocide has achieved a significant industry standard and further strengthens the commercial viability of our technology. The objective of this trial program was to confirm Flavocide was able to control the most common grain storage pest in Australia, the Lesser grain borer, over a nine month period and pleasingly we have achieved that. This now serves as an excellent basis for our collaborative trial program with BASF, DAF and the GRDC. These results further demonstrate the potential of Flavocide in grain storage pest management programs."

Dr. Manoj Nayak, Leader of the Postharvest Grain Protection Unit within DAF, which undertook the Flavocide testing program with Bio-Gene said: "These trial results show that Flavocide provides control of F1 adult progeny in bioassay assessments of both laboratory and field stored wheat. In addition to these assessments that confirm residual efficacy, we have also been monitoring for the presence of natural infestations of pests in the field stored grain. This provided additional evidence regarding the effectiveness of Flavocide over the nine-months assessment period. We look forward to continuing the work with Bio-Gene in the expanded collaborative project with BASF and GRDC and to further progress the Flavocide testing program."

Currently there is no single chemistry that controls all major pests that impact stored grain. The incidence of pest resistance is rising in Australia, and around the world. In some cases, losses of up to 70% of grain in storage have been attributed to pests. Flavocide has the potential to create formulations that will enable control of the full range of pests including pests resistant to other classes of chemistry.

A chemistry which introduces a new Mode of Action is critical for pest management to reduce the potential of increased resistance in the future.

Approved for release by the Bio-Gene Board of Directors.

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E: [dgunn@henslow.com](mailto:dgunn@henslow.com)**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 crop protection and storage, public health, consumer applications and animal health. The Company's aim is to develop and commercialise a broad portfolio of targeted insect control and management solutions.

**About Queensland DAF**

DAF works to achieve a productive and profitable agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector by promoting sustainability and innovation; and by providing leadership for the sector which adds value to the Queensland economy and community. DAF manage community resources, applying science to improve production and products, leading the fight on animal and plant pests and diseases, and working constructively with stakeholders for mutual benefit. The department operates in more than 90 locations across Queensland. The post-harvest grain protection team based in Brisbane undertakes a number of projects that support the grain industry in protecting grain from stored product insects by: studying and understanding insect biology, developing effective treatments for protecting wheat, and advising farmers and the grain industry.

<sup>TM</sup> Flavocide is a trademark of Bio-Gene Technology Limited