

## STORED GRAIN TRIAL CONFIRMS FLAVOCIDE™ CONTINUES TO CONTROL KEY PEST OVER 13 MONTHS

- Flavocide<sup>™</sup> continues to control key stored grain pest over 13 months, in both laboratory and field conditions
- Results further strengthen commercial viability of Flavocide in stored grain beyond 9-months (considered industry standard for new protectants)
- Results deliver an excellent platform for the expanded trial program currently underway with BASF,
  Department of Agriculture & Fisheries Queensland Government (DAF) & the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC)

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, today announced final results from its stored grain trial, showing Flavocide continues to control a key pest over 13 months.

In December 2019, Bio-Gene announced trial results that confirmed Flavocide successfully controlled this key stored grain pest, the Lesser Grain Borer, over a nine-month period, which is considered a key industry standard for any new grain protectant to enter the market.

Commenting on the 13-month results, Bio-Gene CEO, Richard Jagger said: "The trial program that began in January 2019 was designed to confirm Flavocide was able to control the most common stored grain pest in Australia; the Lesser Grain Borer. The residual efficacy over 13-months is highly encouraging because it further strengthens the commercial viability of our technology in stored grain.

"These data suggest that industry participants will have more flexibility over viable storage periods for grain, to allow for the optimum time for use or shipment, which can ultimately deliver more value. These results serve as an excellent basis for the collaborative trial program which began in January this year with BASF, DAF and GRDC that is assessing our technology against a full range of pests," he said.

Dr. Manoj Nayak, Leader of the Postharvest Grain Protection Unit within DAF, who undertook the Flavocide testing program with Bio-Gene said: "These trial results show that Flavocide provides residual control of F1 adult progeny in bioassay assessments of both laboratory and field stored wheat over an extended period of 13 months and this is very positive for the industry. This data provides a solid platform for the expanded collaborative project with BASF and GRDC and to further progress the Flavocide testing program."

The trial program that commenced recently in collaboration with BASF, DAF and GRDC, aims to determine the optimum combination of Flavocide with other chemical groups to generate commercial products for protection of grain from the full range of major grain storage pests. This trial is progressing well despite the current restrictions in Australia relating to COVID-19.

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. The introduction of products with a novel Mode of Action, such as Flavocide, is critical for pest management in stored grain to reduce the potential of increased insecticide resistance in the future.



Approved for release by the Chairman of the Board.

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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 new solutions for insecticide manufacturers in multiple applications including crop protection, grain storage, public health, and consumer applications. The Company's aim is to develop and commercialise a broad portfolio of targeted insect control and pest management solutions.

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