

## APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bio-Gene Technology Limited (ASX:BGT, 'Bio-Gene' or 'the Company'), an agtech development company enabling the next generation of novel insecticides, today announced the appointment of Dr. Peter Beetham as a Non-executive Director of the Company.

Dr. Beetham is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of US-based agricultural biotechnology company Cibus Global, LLC (Cibus). Cibus has developed proprietary precision gene editing technology enabling development of new traits for the global agricultural seed industry. It commercially launched its first range of canola products based on its Cibus Rapid Trait Development System ( $RTDS^{TM}$ ) technology under the Falco brand in 2018 after more than 10 years of internal development from early research to regulatory approval stage.

Cibus has completed several recent rounds of fund raising totalling some US\$150 million.

Dr. Beetham has over 30 years of experience in the bio-agriculture community, with a passion for moving technology to commercial application. He was employed by the Victorian Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (DARA) in Australia from 1985 to 1992, serving as a Scientific Officer based at the Plant Research Institute (PRI), working with research groups throughout Southeast Asia and the South Pacific. He continued his research as a postdoctoral scientist at the Boyce Thompson Institute at Cornell University, where he was one of the pioneers of the early work that led to the *RTDS* technologies.

Prior to joining Cibus in 2001, he was Research Director of the Plant and Industrial Products Division at ValiGen, formerly Kimeragen, Inc. At Cibus he led the scientific and regulatory endeavours as R&D Director. Since 2014 he has been President and CEO of Cibus tasked with taking Cibus to the next level of growth as a growth stage commercial company leading the way for licensing of gene edited traits to leading global seed companies.

Bio-Gene's Interim Chairman, Robert Klupacs, welcomed Dr. Beetham's appointment to the Board: "Peter brings experience and insight which is directly relevant to Bio-Gene's strategic objectives. He has a broad cross-section of technical, regulatory, commercial, intellectual property licensing and capital markets experience and a successful track record of developing agricultural biotechnology through to commercial licensing outcomes. He has also been a leading author on over 100 patents and patent applications.

"We are extremely excited to have him join our Board as we look to increase our internal expertise and also look forward to adding additional Directors of similar stature, agricultural industry expertise and commercialisation track record over the next few months"

Dr. Beetham's appointment is effective from 21 December 2020.

Approved for release by the Board of Directors.

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## For further information, please contact:

## **Bio-Gene Technology Limited:**

Richard Jagger Roger McPherson

Chief Executive Officer CFO & Company Secretary

P: 03 9068 1062 P: 03 9068 1062

E: <u>bgt.info@bio-gene.com.au</u> E: <u>bgt.info@bio-gene.com.au</u>

## **About Bio-Gene Technology Ltd**

Bio-Gene is an Australian agtech company enabling the next generation of novel insecticides. Bio-Gene's 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, animal health and consumer applications. The Company's aim is to develop and commercialise a broad portfolio of targeted insect control and management solutions.

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