

FLAVOCIDE™ ACHIEVES POSITIVE INITIAL EFFICACY RESULTS AGAINST REDLEGGED EARTH MITE

- Bioassay study demonstrates Flavocide™ is efficacious against redlegged earth mite (*Halotydeus destructor*) – a major pest of cereals and pastures
- Study also confirmed that Flavocide™ had the same efficacy against strains of *Halotydeus destructor* that are resistant to pyrethroids and organophosphates, common products used to control this pest
- Testing to proceed to trials under semi-field conditions

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, has received positive initial results of a study conducted to examine the efficacy of Flavocide™ against the redlegged earth mite (*Halotydeus destructor*).

The aim of the study was to assess the efficacy of flavesone (the active ingredient in Flavocide™, one of Bio-Gene’s lead insecticide products) against susceptible and insecticide resistant populations, as well as comparing these results to the efficacy of conventional insecticides bifenthrin and chlorpyrifos.

The study demonstrated that flavesone is effective against redlegged earth mite including field-collected populations with resistance to both pyrethroids (bifenthrin) and organophosphates (chlorpyrifos), and therefore that flavesone has a different mode of action to these insecticides. This is the fourth resistant insect population where Flavocide™ has shown activity indicating its potential to address the increasing problem of insecticide resistance.

The study was undertaken on behalf of Bio-Gene by independent research organisation **cesar** Pty Ltd (“**cesar**”). **cesar** will be conducting the next phase of testing on redlegged earth mites for Bio-Gene, which will see Flavocide™ trialled under semi-field conditions. **cesar** is also performing initial efficacy testing on several other major crop pests for Bio-Gene over the coming months.

“We are delighted with these initial studies on the redlegged earth mite,” Richard Jagger, CEO-elect announced. “As a major pest in cereals in Australia with significant resistance to the major incumbent chemistry, it demonstrates the potential of our technology to deal with certain resistant pest populations that greatly impact Australian agriculture.”

“The trial confirms that Flavocide™ shows a strong promise as an insecticide,” Dr. Paul Umina, Director of **cesar**, advised. “Redlegged earth mite is one of the most important establishment pests of grain crops and pastures in Australia, and these results warrant proceeding to the next stage of testing.”

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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.

About cesar Pty Ltd

cesar is an independent Research Organisation committed to a sustainable future by providing world leading science, technology and research into agricultural pest control and wildlife conservation.