



6th November 2015

Claire Bleakley
Pigeon Bush
Featherston 5710

Dear Claire

Request for official information

I refer to your email dated 13th October, in which you requested information relating to the AgResearch December 2015 annual report on Genetically Modified cattle ERMA 200223 and the Scion July 2015 annual report on Genetically Modified Trees for ERMA 200479. Your request has been treated as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

In regards to your questions relating to AgResearch December 2015 annual report on Genetically Modified cattle ERMA 200223, I can confirm the following:

- No section 67A approvals were issued during 2013-2015
- The EPA does not hold a full animal health report with blood and milk reports and full assays of all constructs of ERMA20223
- The EPA does not hold any information regarding the number of offal pits dug in association with the disposal of animals

Please find a copy of the Scion July 2015 Annual Report on Genetically Modified Trees for ERMA 200479 attached. This report will be publicly released on 24th November 2015. Therefore I respectfully request that you do not distribute it further until then.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Allan Freeth', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Allan Freeth
Chief Executive

23 June 2015

Field test GMF100001 - Annual Report to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)

This report relates to control 13 for the field test approval GMF100001 (ERMA200479), approved 14 December 2010. The report covers the period 1 June 2014 to 31 May 2015. This is the fourth annual report for the approval.

Note that there are currently no genetically modified trees or cuttings planted on the field site under the field test approvals GMF99001 or GMF99005.

Purpose of field test

To field test in containment *Pinus radiata* with genetic modifications to alter plant growth/biomass acquisition, reproductive development, herbicide tolerance, biomass utilisation, wood density and wood dimensional stability.

Field testing activities carried out

On 4 March 2015, 277 trees with genetic modifications to give improved biomass utilisation were transferred to the field test site. These trees were planted on 11 March 2015 and 12 March 2015.

On 13 May 2015, four dead trees with genetic modifications to alter plant herbicide tolerance were removed from the ground and stacked to compost in the field test site.

Unforeseen adverse effects and incidents that have occurred

Unforeseen adverse effects

No unforeseen adverse effects to report.

Incidents

No incidents to report.

Activities relevant to engagement with Maori

On 9 March 2015, the Scion kaumatua inspected and blessed the genetically modified trees prior to their planting in the field test site.

Ngāti Whakaue's Matakokiri Wananga was held at Scion in April 2015. This Whakapapa focussed event was for Ngāti Whakaue ākonga (40 students and 20 whānau). As part of this event students were shown the field trial and our work with GMO trees was explained and discussed.

Results of the field test research which have been disseminated to third parties

No results yet to report.

Environmental impact research

We are currently investigating the impact of a modification in biomass composition on insects that feed on pine.