



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

26 September 2023

**Invitation to comment on the proposed commercial release
of genetically modified banana plants**

The Gene Technology Regulator is assessing an application from the Queensland University of Technology for commercial cultivation of banana plants. The banana plants are genetically modified for disease resistance and also contain an antibiotic marker gene that was used for the selection of plants during research. Cultivation is proposed to occur in all banana-growing areas of Australia.

The Regulator has prepared a Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) for this application and welcomes written submissions relating to the protection of human health and safety and the environment prior to making a decision on whether to issue the licence. The consultation RARMP and related information can be obtained via our website (search for [DIR 199](#)), or from the contacts below. Submissions should reference DIR 199 and be received by **6 November 2023**.

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