

BEE SAFETY STUDY DELIVERS POSITIVE FINDINGS FOR FLAVOCIDE™

- **Bee acute toxicity studies confirm that Flavocide™ is relatively non-toxic to bees, when compared with other commonly used insecticides**
- **Indicates Flavocide is unlikely to require a cautionary statement on product labels regarding impact on bees or other pollinating insects**
- **Novel mode of action combined with positive bee safety profile increases Flavocide's attractiveness as an alternative to products under regulatory restriction**
- **Highlights potential for Flavocide to be in used in applications where bees are present, strongly enhancing the commercial value proposition**

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, is pleased to announce positive study results demonstrating that Flavocide has a low toxicity to bees, when compared to commonly used insecticides, indicating its relative safety when used around bees or other pollinating insects.

Insecticides, intended to control a wide spectrum of pests, have the potential to impact non-target organisms such as bees, and other pollinators, when applied to crops. The use of such broad-spectrum insecticides has been implicated in the decline in honeybees and other wild pollinators, contributing to a major economic and environmental issue for the agricultural industry. This has culminated in the recent banning of outdoor uses of some neonicotinoid insecticides in Europe.

Bees are economically important as the major pollinator of agricultural crops as well as being an integral part of the broader environment. Regulators of pesticides therefore require bee toxicity information be provided in order to assess the impact of use of products on bees in and around crops.

Bee acute toxicity studies involving oral ingestion and topical contact were conducted on Flavocide to OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) protocols under good laboratory practices (GLP) by an internationally accredited laboratory. Importantly, the findings confirmed that Flavocide had a toxicity rating well outside the level that would require a precautionary statement on product labels.

Richard Jagger, Bio-Gene CEO, commented: "Testing Flavocide for toxicity to bees has been a priority for Bio-Gene in order to demonstrate the safety of the product when used in agricultural crops and in other outdoor public health use areas. We are encouraged by these significant results that classify Flavocide as relatively non-toxic to bees. Demonstrating safety on these important insects is a significant boost to our value proposition as we define the commercial applications for our technology."

Gavin Hall, General Manager of De Groot Technical Services, our regulatory consultant, who managed the overseas laboratory that undertook the tests with Flavocide, confirmed that: "The results of this study demonstrate that Flavocide exhibits a very low acute toxicity to bees, and it is unlikely that a product label would require a bee cautionary statement."

Flavocide testing to date demonstrates activity against a range of crop pests confirming potential in a number of key food crops including cereal, fruit and vegetables where bees and other beneficial insects may be present.

A comparison of Flavocide to other common insecticides is detailed in the table below:

Bee Toxicity - Comparison between Flavesoneⁱ and Other Standard Insecticides

Insecticide	Oral LD50 (µg/bee)	Contact LD50 (µg/bee)	Classification
Chlorpyrifos	0.12*	0.11*	Group 1 - Highly Toxic: LD50 0.001-1.99 µg/ bee
Bifenthrin	0.1*	0.01462**	Group 1 - Highly Toxic: LD50 0.001-1.99 µg/ bee
Deltamethrin	0.049*	0.032*	Group 1 - Highly Toxic: LD50 0.001-1.99 µg/ bee
Imidacloprid	0.0037*	0.081*	Group 1 - Highly Toxic: LD50 0.001-1.99 µg/ bee
Thiamethoxam	0.005*	0.024*	Group 1 - Highly Toxic: LD50 0.001-1.99 µg/ bee
Dinotefuran	0.0223*	0.056*	Group 1 - Highly Toxic: LD50 0.001-1.99 µg/ bee
Flavesone	18.63	15.41	Non classified > 11 µg/ bee

LD50 is the lethal concentration causing 50% mortality after 24 h with 95 % confidence limits

References:

* FAO Specifications and Evaluation for Agricultural Pesticides

** <http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/archive/biftech.html>

i. Flavocide is Bio-Gene's trademark for the Flavesone molecule

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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.

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