

Other issues Post should be aware of: - On 14 July 2011 Greenpeace activists scaled a CSIRO trial site of GM wheat in Canberra and destroyed \$300,000 worth of genetically modified wheat. The GM trials were conducted under licence from the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator which imposed strict containment conditions. Under the licence, CSIRO could conduct animal and human studies, subject to approval by a Human Research Ethics Committee which operates under the guidance of the National Health and Medical Research Council. GM wheat from these trials was not permitted to enter the human or animal food supplies.

Greenpeace had requested information from CSIRO relating to nutritional testing of GM organisms on animals and humans. CSIRO denied the FOI request claiming the request was too broad and would require an unreasonable allocation of resources without being in the public interest.

- The incident involving a CSIRO trial site for GM wheat being destroyed is currently under investigation led by the Australian Federal Police with input from OGTR.
- Since 2005, the regulator has approved eleven small GM wheat field trials, each limited in size and duration. Further information on these trials, including the comprehensive Risk Assessments and Risk Management Plans, the location of each field trial and applications under consideration is available on the OGTR website. The regulator conducts a rigorous science-based risk assessment and extensive public and expert consultation for each trial they approve. To date, there has been no commercial release of GM wheat in Australia, nor has there been any application for commercial release submitted to the regulator.