BIO-GENE TECHNOLOGY SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN US CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) FUNDED VECTOR CONTROL PROGRAM

- **Bio-Gene's technology, Flavocide® and Qcide®, to be included in a Center for Disease Control (CDC) funded vector control program**
- **Program is coordinated by the Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector Borne Disease (MCE-VBD)**
- **Studies involving Bio-Gene's technology will be conducted by Purdue University, who have significant history and knowledge of Bio-Gene's products**
- **Program focuses on ticks as major vectors of disease**
- **Bio-Gene will have access to the results for discussion with researchers and potential commercial collaborators**

Bio-Gene Technology Limited (ASX: BGT, **Bio-Gene** or **the Company**), an agtech development company enabling the next generation of novel insecticides, has had its proprietary technology, Flavocide® and Qcide®, selected to participate in a significant US program to address on-going issues of vector-borne diseases.

The program, conducted by the Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Disease (MCE-VBD) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's College of Agricultural & Life Sciences and School of Veterinary Medicine, is funded by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC will invest US$10 million over five years into the overall program and involves prominent United States universities in this sector including University Wisconsin Madison, with partners at Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, and Indiana universities, including Purdue University who has a significant history and knowledge of Bio-Gene's technology.

As part of the overall program, Bio-Gene will work with MCE-VBD researchers to understand how Flavocide and Qcide can be harnessed to control vector-borne disease, including those caused by tick-borne pathogens like *Borrelia burgdorferi* (Lyme disease) the most common vector-borne disease in the USA that is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*)[1].

Richard Jagger, Chief Executive Officer of Bio-Gene said: "We are delighted to participate in this major study into improving the control of vectors, and more specifically ticks. To have our technology selected for inclusion in a world leading study into new vector control technologies will help validate the potential of BGT products in this field. Public health is a prominent global issue. With climate change impacting the habitable range of vectors such as ticks, and current chemistry becoming less efficient due to resistance, finding new products is more important than ever. As this program is funded with a significant investment from the CDC, it shows how critical the issue of vector control is and the threat to public health it represents.

"The work involving Bio-Gene's molecules will be conducted by Purdue University, under the direction of Professor Catherine Hill, Head of the Department of Entomology and leader of an internationally recognised program focused on the control of arthropod-borne infectious diseases that threaten public health and biosecurity. Purdue University has generated significant data for Bio-Gene over several years, and the team has excellent knowledge of our products in terms of how they work and their potential for effective vector control. We are pleased they are leading this portion of the program, which further highlights the potential value our technology to the world's vector control industry."

The program is expected to start shortly, and Bio-Gene will utilise the results for discussion with researchers and potential commercial collaborators.

Approved for release by the Board of Directors.

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About Bio-Gene Technology Ltd

Bio-Gene is an Australian agtech company enabling the next generation of novel insecticides. Bio-Gene's 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 crop protection and storage, public health, animal health and consumer applications. The Company's aim is to develop and commercialise a broad portfolio of targeted insect control and management solutions.

About CDC

CDC is the United States of America's leading science-based, data-driven, service organisation that protects the public's health. For more than 70 years, the CDC has put science into action to help children stay healthy so they can grow and learn; to help families, businesses, and communities fight disease and stay strong; and to protect the public's health.

About Professor Catherine Hill and Purdue University

Catherine Hill is a Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology at Purdue University in Indiana, U.S.A. where she leads an internationally recognised research program focused on the control of insects and ticks of medical and veterinary importance. The discovery and development of new, human-safe insecticides is the primary goal of her research program. Prof. Hill and her team use bioinformatic, molecular and pharmacological approaches to identify insect-selective chemical leads with potential for development as new mode-of-action insecticides. Prof. Hill has strong interests in research entrepreneurship and commercialisation.

Global Issue of Vector Borne Diseases

Vector-borne disease is a rapidly growing global problem due to increasing insecticide resistance, population growth, urbanisation, travel, and climate change. The World Health Organisation (WHO) reports that currently more than half of the world's population is at risk from vector-borne diseases, while globally there are more than 200 million cases of malaria and over 400,000 people die from the disease every year[2], most of them children under the age of five. Zika virus has been declared a global health emergency, and death due to Dengue Fever has increased 30-fold in the last 50 years[3].

1. Lyme Disease | Lyme Disease | CDC
2. *World Malaria Report, 2022. World Health Organisation*
3. *https://mosquitoreviews.com/learn/disease-death-statistics*