

# **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO GENE TECHNOLOGY**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- (a) economic costs and benefits for Tasmania and individual industry sectors in relation to genetic modification in primary industries;
- (b) market opportunities and associated strategies for Tasmania as a producer of genetically modified and non-genetically modified products;
- (c) environmental risks and effects of the use of genetically modified organisms in Tasmanian primary industries;
- (d) social and ethical issues surrounding the use of gene technologies in particular with regard to Tasmania's primary industries;
- (e) assessment processes for genetically modified food;
- (f) the application of genetic modification techniques to non-food crops and the risks and benefits of the use or avoidance of genetic modification techniques in non-food primary industries products in Tasmania; and
- (g) assessment of appropriate strategies for primary industries research and development in Tasmania in the context of Terms of Reference (a) to (f).

For the purposes of the inquiry:-

- 1) 'genetically modified organism' include any organism that has been modified by any technique for the modification of genes or other genetic material involving the recombination of DNA through the artificial excision, transfer and insertion of genetic material across species;
- 2) the definition of genetically modified organisms extends to organisms that have inherited particular characteristics from an initial organism that has been modified by the artificial excision, transfer and insertion of genetic material; and
- 3) the terms 'genetically modified' and 'genetic modification' have corresponding meanings and are used as synonyms for 'genetically engineered' or 'genetic engineering'.