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2	Benefits and risks of gene technology in agriculture	7
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	The committee recommends the continued use of gene technology, but only with stringent regulation, constant and cautious	
	monitoring, and public reporting	29
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	The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government	
	increase funding for research into the potential benefits and risks (environmental, health, social, economic and ethical) presented by	
	genetically modified organisms	29
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Sites should lay out clearly what they contain, be easily navigable, and present readily understood information which is updated	40
regularly.	
Recommendation 6	43
The committee recommends that Biotechnology Australia, in its role as the coordinator of information about gene technology	
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Biotechnology Australia should regularly publicise all information from the Gene Technology Regulator, including information	
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The committee recommends that Biotechnology Australia be	10
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The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government,	10
through Biotechnology Australia:	46
 monitor understanding and awareness of biotechnology; and assess the effectiveness of its current public awareness campaign 	
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 detail the independence, transparency and accountability of the 	
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benefits; and	47
 detail how the regulation of gene technology is able to avoid 	
or minimise risk	47

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Research, development and commercialisation	59
The committee recommends that Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Australia develop a strategy for Commonwealth funding to facilitate and encourage the innovative use of gene technology in the development of commercially viable, emerging industries in	
This strategy should be drawn up in consultation with state and territory agriculture departments and the private sector	63
The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government: continue to contribute funding for the basic gene technology	
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Recommendation 12 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government review the current arrangements in place regarding gene technology research and ownership of intellectual property to ensure maximum	67
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	Australia develop a strategy for Commonwealth funding to facilitate and encourage the innovative use of gene technology in the development of commercially viable, emerging industries in agriculture, fisheries and forestry

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The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government, in	
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programs in Australia;	69
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import genetic resources from overseas with maximising	
Australia's benefit from its native genetic resources	72

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The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government: monitor the impact of the new business tax arrangements	81
on the level of investment in biotechnology; and	81
 implement further changes to taxation arrangements if 	
further stimulus to invest is needed	81
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The committee recommends that, when reviewing the impact	
of the new business tax arrangements on the level of investment in	
biotechnology, the Commonwealth government also review:	84
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concession for research and development; and	84
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government fund a specific incubator program to assist the	
application of biotechnology to agriculture	
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continue to fund programs for increasing the numbers of people	
and the levels of skills in:	
biotechnology research; and	88
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programs and materials targeted at small producers and breeders	
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the breeding of agricultural genetically modified	
organisms; and	94
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	raise the thresholds for granting patents so that they	
	are equivalent to the highest set by overseas countries; and	106
	screen patent applications more rigorously	106
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	The committee recommends that the Patent Act 1990 be amended:	107
	to give effect to the changes proposed in	
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	to clarify that the long term interests of end users are	
	as important as the rights of intellectual property owners	
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government, together with industry representatives, play	
an active part in negotiations to implement the Biosafety	
Protocol in such a way that:	150
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and addressed; and	150
 Australia's interests in freely trading genetically 	
modified organisms are maximised, without jeopardising	
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The committee recommends that the Commonwealth	
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ensure that there is sufficient in house capacity in the Gene	
Technology Technical Advisory Committee to provide	
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organisms;	157
give it the authority to coopt independent expertise when	
required; and	157
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