

OIA21-0539

1 June 2021

Claire Bleakley  
claire@gefree.org.nz

Dear Claire Bleakley

Thank you for your email of 4 May 2021 requesting information relating to *AgResearch Ruakura facility verification reports*. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

*Regarding the 02.03.2020 MPI Verification report PBV/2501/2020/01 by Crystal Lange at the AgResearch Ruakura facility there were two inspections mentioned of the facility between July 2019 and March 2020. (See page 2 of the Verification report attached to the ERMA200223 2020 Annual Report) Please could you provide me with all ERMA 200223 AgResearch -Ruakura facility verification/audit reports conducted in the July 2019-2020 July. Especially those referred to in ERMA 200223 Annual report regarding the two inspections that had occurred in the preceding 6 months. The 2020 ERMA200223 Annual reports do not include them.*

The following are appendices are attached:

1. Appendix 1 - AgResearch August 2019 Verification Report
2. Appendix 2 - Corrective Action Request following the AgResearch August 2019 Verification Report
3. Appendix 3 - AgResearch November 2019 Verification Report – this is a follow-up audit focussed on the issues highlighted in the AgResearch August 2019 Verification Report
4. Appendix 4 - AgResearch March 2020 Verification Report

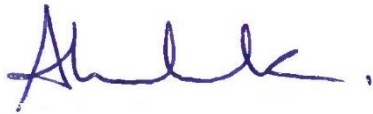
Some information has been withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the OIA:

- Section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons
- Section 9(2)(ba)(i) - to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied

MPI is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at [Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz). Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Cook', followed by a comma.

Alan Cook  
**Director, Verification Services**