Animal and Plant Health Agency

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

Growing season field inspection report: consent 19/R52/01 (2019 release)

A report of a field inspection visit to an experimental genetically modified (GM) crop trial to assess compliance with Part VI of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Regulations 2002.

GMO consent details

Consent reference: 19/R52/01 ('Part B' consent)

Consent holder: John Innes Centre.

Crop type: Chinese kale/broccoli (Brassica oleracea ssp alboglabra and Brassica oleracea ssp italica)

Site details: Norwich Research Park, Norwich

OS Reference: TG 179 075

Details of the GMO: Brassica oleracea plants (subspecies alboglabra and italica) that have been genome-edited to contain small insertions or deletions in the Myb28 gene.

Purpose of the release: The aim of the trial is to better understand the effect of the Myb28 gene under field conditions.

Site inspection details

Inspection date: 04/06/2019

Site reference: 19/R52/01-2019-01

Staff seen: Consent Holder, Lead Researcher, and Postgraduate Researcher.

Inspection details: The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out a pre-flowering inspection of this 2019-planted research trial of GM Brassica oleracea. Checks were made on the size and layout of the GM plot and the non-GM Brassica napus plants surrounding it, the arrangements in place for growing-season monitoring (including procedures for controlling species in the genera Brassica, Eruca, Erucastrum, Hirschfeldia, Moricandia, Raphanus and Sinapis in the 20m border), and plans for harvest, disposal, and post-harvest monitoring. All were in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

The consent holder plans to harvest the GM plants in the next few days, prior to flowering.

Conclusions and actions

Report conclusions: The Genetic Modification Inspectorate is content that the release is consistent with the conditions and limitations specified by the consent. No risks to human health or the environment, posed by the genetically modified organism, were identified.

Action taken: None

APHA GM Inspectorate

Sand Hutton, York, YO41 1LZ