

Animal and Plant Health Agency

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

## Growing season field inspection report: consent 18/R8/01 (2020 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:** 18/R8/01 ('Part B' consent)

**Consent holder:** Rothamsted Research

**Crop type:** *Camelina sativa* (camelina, gold-of-pleasure, or false flax)

**Site details:** Harpenden, Hertfordshire

**OS Reference:** TL 121 134

**Details of the GMO:** *Camelina sativa* plant lines containing genetic elements carried on binary vectors pSUN2 or pRS-3G. The GM lines contain one or more of the fourteen DNA constructs developed using these vectors, and described in consent 18/R8/01.

**Purpose of the release:** Research trial to determine the agronomic performance and seed oil yield of transgenic camelina plants engineered to accumulate non-native lipids in their seed oils, and to evaluate transgene-derived traits which deliver improvements to plant architecture or metabolism.

### Site inspection details

**Inspection date:** 14/09/2020

**Site reference:** Harpenden-18/R8/01-01

**Staff seen:** Consent Holder; Farm Manager.

**Inspection details:** The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection, during the seed-setting stage of this 2020-sown research trial of GM camelina. Checks were made on the measures in place to restrict human access to personnel who have been informed of the limitations and conditions of the consent, the size and layout of the GM plots, the arrangements in place for growing-season monitoring, and plans for the

harvest and disposal of seed and other GM plant material. All were in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

The Consent Holder had opted to sow a pollen barrier; however, prior to flowering it was concluded that the camelina stand density of this pollen barrier was below the minimum requirement specified by the consent document. The Consent Holder had therefore implemented a separation distance of at least 50 metres from any wild or cultivated camelina species, as per the consent requirements. During the inspection visit it was confirmed that the Consent Holder had suitable protocols in place to ensure that this separation distance was appropriately maintained.

## **Conclusions and actions**

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

**Action required/taken:** None

**APHA GM Inspectorate**  
Sand Hutton,  
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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:** 18/R8/01 ('Part B' consent)

**Consent holder:** Rothamsted Research

**Crop type:** *Camelina sativa* (camelina, gold-of-pleasure, or false flax)

**Site details:** Brooms Barn, Suffolk

**OS Reference:** TL 759 658

**Details of the GMO:** *Camelina sativa* plant lines containing genetic elements carried on binary vectors pSUN2 or pRS-3G. The GM lines contain one or more of the fourteen DNA constructs developed using these vectors, and described in consent 18/R8/01.

**Purpose of the release:** Research trial to determine the agronomic performance and seed oil yield of transgenic camelina plants engineered to accumulate non-native lipids in their seed oils, and to evaluate transgene-derived traits which deliver alterations to plant architecture or metabolism.

### Site inspection details

**Inspection date:** 12/08/2020

**Site reference:** Brooms\_Barn-18/R8/01-01

**Staff seen:** Site Manager

**Inspection details:** The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection of this 2020-sown research trial of GM camelina during the flowering/seed-setting stage. Checks were made on the location of the release, the size and layout of the GM plots, and the measures in place to restrict human access to personnel who have been informed of the limitations and conditions of the consent.

The Consent Holder had opted to sow a pollen barrier, and it was confirmed during the inspection visit that its width and plant density were in accordance with the consent conditions. However, one area of the pollen barrier was observed to be situated at a distance of more than 0.5 metres (the maximum distance specified in the consent document) from the GMOs in part of one of the experimental plots. This was due to a problem encountered during the sowing of the experimental plot in question. In order to minimise the potential for unwanted cross-pollination between the GMOs and conspecific and/or related species, the Consent Holder agreed to maintain a separation distance of at least 50 metres between the outer limit of the affected part of the relevant experimental plot and any wild or cultivated camelina species (this being an option specified in the consent conditions in cases where a pollen barrier is not sown, or does not meet the required specifications stipulated in the consent document).

Following the inspection visit the Genetic Modification Inspectorate contacted the Consent Holder to determine the plans in place for the harvest and disposal of the seed and other plant material. It was confirmed that these plans are in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent document.

## **Conclusions and actions**

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

**Action required/taken:** None

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## Growing season field inspection report: consent 19/R8/01 (2020 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/R8/01 ('Part B' consent)

**Consent holder:** Rothamsted Research

**Crop type:** *Camelina sativa* (camelina, gold-of-pleasure, or false flax))

**Site details:** Harpenden, Hertfordshire

**OS Reference:** TL 121 134

**Details of the GMO:** *Camelina sativa* plant lines that contain or were developed using some or all of the fragments of DNA described in Part A1(12) of application 19/R8/01.

**Purpose of the release:** Research trial to determine the agronomic performance and seed oil yield of transgenic *C. sativa* plants engineered to accumulate non-native lipids in their seed oils, or to exhibit a variation in the accumulation of native fatty acids.

### **Site inspection details**

**Inspection date:** 14/09/2020

**Site reference:** Harpenden -19/R8/01-01

**Staff seen:** Consent Holder; Farm Manager.

**Inspection details:** The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection, during the seed-setting stage, of this 2020-sown research trial of GM camelina. Checks were made on the measures in place to restrict human access to personnel who have been informed of the limitations and conditions of the consent, the size and layout of the GM plots, the arrangements in place for growing-season monitoring, and plans for the harvest and disposal of seed and other GM plant material. All were in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

The Consent Holder had opted to sow a pollen barrier; however, prior to flowering it was concluded that the camelina stand density of this pollen barrier was below the minimum requirement specified in the consent document. The Consent Holder therefore implemented a separation distance of at least 50 metres from any wild or cultivated camelina species, as per the consent requirements. During the inspection visit it was confirmed that the Consent Holder had suitable protocols in place to ensure that this separation distance was appropriately maintained.

## **Conclusions and actions**

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

**Action required/taken:** None

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