

Animal and Plant Health Agency

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

Growing season field inspection report: consent 21/R52/01 (2022 release)

A report on the Genetic Modification Inspectorate's field inspection visit to a 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: 21/R52/01 (experimental release).

Consent holder: John Innes Centre.

Crop type: Wheat (spring) (*Triticum aestivum*).

Site details: Bawburgh, Norfolk

OS grid reference: TG 150 087

Details of the GMO: Wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) plants, cultivar Fielder, which have been genetically modified to enhance micronutrient accumulation in the grain by over-expressing, in the same plants, the wheat vacuolar iron transporter 2 (TaVIT2) gene in the endosperm, and the rice nicotianamine synthase 2 (OsNAS2) gene.

Purpose of the release: To investigate genetically modified wheat lines that have been biofortified to accumulate higher levels of micronutrients in their grain in the field.

Site inspection details

Inspection date: 14/06/2022

Site reference: JIC-21/R52/01-SITE01-2022-INSP_01.

Personnel seen: Principal Investigator and Project Research Assistant.

Inspection details: The Genetic Modification Inspectorate (GMI) carried out an inspection of this 2022-sown research trial of GM spring wheat at the flowering stage. Checks were made on the location, size and layout of the trial, the measures in place to restrict human access to the site, the precautions taken to eliminate the potential for unintended transfer of GMOs from the trial site, and the dimensions of the non-GM pollen barrier and the isolation distance. The GMI also reviewed the methods employed for planting the GMOs,

the procedures in place for management and monitoring of the release during the growing season, and the Consent Holder's plans for harvest and disposal of plant material. All were in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

Conclusions and actions

Report conclusions: The GMI 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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16/06/2022