Animal and Plant Health Agency

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

Growing season field inspection report: consent 21/R54/01 (2022 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: 21/R54/01 ('Part B' consent).

Consent holder: Cambridge University Crop Science Centre.

Crop type: Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*).

Site details: Park Farm, Girton, Cambridgeshire.

OS Reference: TL 429 619

Details of the GMO: The genetically modified organisms are barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) plants, based on the cultivar Golden Promise, that have been gene edited and/or genetically modified with respect to the symbiosis pathways involved in the perception of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi[1].

Purpose of the release: To investigate the impacts of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi inoculation on biomass and yield of genetically modified barley lines that have been modified with respect to symbiosis pathways, in the field.

Site inspection details

Inspection date: 07/07/2022

Site reference: CU_CSC-21/R54/01-SITE01-2022-INSP_01.

Staff seen: Trials Manager; Deputy to the Consent Holder.

[1]For further details of these lines see: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/genetically-modified-organisms-cambridge-university-crop-science-centre-21r5401. Note: in the 2022 trial, only four of the 13 GM lines described in the consent application were released.

Inspection details: The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection of this 2022-sown research trial of GM barley. Checks were made on the following: the location, size and layout of the trial; the measures in place to restrict human access to the trial site; the width of the non-GM pollen barrier, and the width of the isolation distance. In addition, the following were discussed: the methods employed for planting the GMOs; the arrangements in place for the management and monitoring of the release during the growing season; the Consent Holder's plans for harvesting the trial and for conducting post-harvest and post-trial monitoring; plans for the disposal of plant material; and the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency. All were in accordance with the requirements specified in the letter of consent and its accompanying schedule.

Conclusions and actions

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

Action required/taken: None

APHA GM Inspectorate
Sand Hutton,
York,
YO41 1LZ

08/07/2022