

Animal and Plant Health Agency

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

Growing season field inspection report: consent 18/R08/01 (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: 18/R08/01 ('Part B' consent)

Consent holder: Rothamsted Research

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

Site location: Brooms Barn, Suffolk

OS Reference: TL 756 655

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, as described in the letter of consent, reference 18/R08/01.

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: 26/07/2022

Site reference: Brooms_Barn-18/R08/01-2022-01.

Personnel seen: Brooms Barn Field Trials Manager; Head of Farms.

Inspection details: The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection of this 2022-sown research trial of GM camelina at the seed-setting stage. Checks were made on the location, size and layout of the trial, the measures employed to control access to the trial site, and the procedures in place for the management and monitoring of the site during

the growing season. All were judged to be in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

In addition, to minimise the possibility of unwanted gene flow, the Consent Holder had opted to employ a 50-metre separation distance around the plots, rather than a pollen barrier. The Genetic Modification Inspectorate therefore reviewed the Consent Holder's monitoring records and conducted an inspection of the 50-metre separation distance. No wild or cultivated *Camelina* species were observed within this area.

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: The GMI recommends that the Consent Holder formally documents¹ the approach used for defining and monitoring the 50-metre separation distance (where this option is used), including: ensuring the area is marked out prior to the flowering of the GM camelina plants; stipulating the frequency and duration of monitoring; specifying how any wild camelina relatives will be identified; and ensuring that specific records are kept of the results of this monitoring.

APHA GM Inspectorate
Sand Hutton,
York,
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29/07/2022

¹ e.g., as part of the Standard Operating Procedure for the growing-season monitoring of the GM camelina trials in general.

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

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GMO consent details

Consent reference: 19/R08/01 ('Part B' consent)

Consent holder: Rothamsted Research

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

Site location: Brooms Barn, Suffolk

OS Reference: TL 756 655

Details of the GMO: Genetically modified (GM) *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/R08/01.

Purpose of the release: To determine the agronomic performance and seed oil yield of transgenic *C. sativa* plants that have been engineered to accumulate non-native lipids (such as omega-3 LC-PUFAs, NMI-PUFAs etc) in their seed oils, or variation in the accumulation of native fatty acids such as oleic and palmitic acid.

Site inspection details

Inspection date: 26/07/2022

Site reference: Brooms_Barn-19/R08/01-2022-01.

Personnel seen: Brooms Barn Field Trials Manager; Head of Farms.

Inspection details: The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection of this 2022-sown research trial of GM camelina at the seed-setting stage. Checks were made on the location, size and layout of the trial, the measures employed to control access to the trial site, and the procedures in place for the management and monitoring of the site during the growing season. All were judged to be in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

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