

Animal and Plant Health Agency

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

## Growing season field inspection report: consent 21/R54/01 (2024 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.

### Genetically Modified Organism (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 429 618

### Details of the GMO

The GMOs 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<sup>1</sup>.

### 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:** 16 August 2024

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<sup>1</sup> For further details of the lines authorised for release see: [gov.uk/government/publications/genetically-modified-organisms-cambridge-university-crop-science-centre-21r5401](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/genetically-modified-organisms-cambridge-university-crop-science-centre-21r5401). Note: in this 2024 trial, only six of the 13 GM lines described in the consent application were released.

**Site reference:** CSC-21/R54/01-SITE01-2024-INSP\_01

**Personnel seen:** Trials Coordinator, Deputy Consent Manager, University Safety Officer and NIAB Senior trials Manager

## **Inspection details**

The Genetic Modification Inspectorate (GMI) carried out an inspection of this 2024-sown research trial of GM barley at the half ear emergence stage (growth stage 55). Checks were made on the location, size and layout of the trial, the measures in place to restrict human access to the site, the dimensions of the non-GM pollen barrier, and the status of the 20m border.

The GMI also reviewed the methods that had been 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 or taken:** None

### **APHA GM Inspectorate**

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16 August 2024