

APHA Genetic Modification Inspectorate

Growing season field inspection report: consent 23/R08/01 (2025 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: 23/R08/01 ('Part B' consent)

Consent holder: Rothamsted Research

Crop type: Camelina (*Camelina sativa*)

Site details: Harpenden, Hertfordshire

OS Reference: TL 120 130

Details of the GMO

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 23/R08/01¹.

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, ketocarotenoids etc) in their seed oils, or variations in the accumulation of native fatty acids such as oleic and palmitic acid and short chain fatty acids.

Site inspection details

Inspection date: 22 July 2025

Site reference: RR-23/R08/01-SITE01-2025-INSP_01

¹ See: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6627f48281fe3e98d1a7e54d/23-R8-01_Part_A1_RRes_revised.pdf

Staff seen: Head of Farms & Farm Team

Inspection details

The Genetic Modification Inspectorate carried out an inspection of this 2025-sown research trial of GM camelina at the podding up stage (growth stage 89). Checks were made on the location, size and layout of the trial, the measures in place to restrict human access to the site, and plans for harvest, disposal and post-harvest monitoring. All were in accordance with the requirements specified in the consent.

To minimise the possibility of unwanted gene flow from the trial to wild or cultivated *Camelina* species, the Consent Holder has opted to employ a 50-metre separation distance around the perimeter of the plot area, rather than a pollen barrier. The GMI conducted an inspection of the area within this 50-metre separation distance and was satisfied that no wild or cultivated *Camelina* species were present.

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 or taken: None

APHA GM Inspectorate

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24 July 2025