

Teagasc logo

Public Notice
PROPOSED DELIBERATE RELEASE OF A GENETICALLY MODIFIED
ORGANISM (GMO)

Field studies with late blight resistant potatoes

Teagasc, Oak Park, Carlow hereby gives notice that it has applied to the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) for consent to conduct a field trial (Part B release) with genetically modified (GM) potatoes according to the Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Regulations – Statutory Instrument (S.I.) No. 500 of 2003.

Description of the GMO and the Purpose of the Proposed Deliberate Release

The GM potato line proposed for release contains a single gene taken from a wild potato species (using techniques of genetic modification), which confers broad spectrum resistance to late blight disease.

Teagasc has been researching the impact of specific GM crops on the Irish agri-environment since 2002. As part of a public-funded European research programme entitled 'AMIGA' (*Assessing and Monitoring the Impacts of Genetically modified plants on Agro-ecosystems*), Teagasc plan to:

- Quantify the impact of GM potato cultivation on soil biodiversity;
- Identify crop management strategies which could be positively or negatively affected by the adoption of GM late blight resistant potato.

Location and Timing

The proposed release, subject to approval by the EPA, will be conducted in a small scale field release at the Teagasc Crops Research Centre at Oak Park, Carlow between March and November 2012 to 2016 in accordance with such approval.

In accordance with sub-article 16(1) of S.I. No. 500 of 2003, any person or body may within a period of 28 days beginning on the day of publication of this notice and subject to the payment of €10.00 (ten) specified in article 48 of S.I. No. 500 of 2003 make representations in writing to the Agency regarding this notification.

Further information on this proposal may be obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the address below.

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