



Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Act 2023

2023 CHAPTER 6

PART 2

PRECISION BRED ORGANISMS: RELEASE, MARKETING AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

Release

3 Restrictions on release of precision bred organism in England

- (1) A person who has a precision bred organism under their control must not release the organism in England unless—
 - (a) the following apply—
 - (i) the notification requirements are satisfied in relation to the release (see section 4),
 - (ii) the person is a person specified in the release notice under section 4(2), and
 - (iii) the release is carried out in accordance with the release notice, or
 - (b) the organism is—
 - (i) a marketable precision bred organism (see section 5(2)), or
 - (ii) the qualifying progeny of a marketable precision bred organism (see section 24).
- (2) For the purposes of this Act an organism is under a person’s “control” if the person keeps it contained by measures designed to—
 - (a) limit its contact with humans and the environment, and
 - (b) prevent or minimise the risk of adverse effects as regards the health of humans or the environment.
- (3) For the purposes of this section and section 4, a person “releases” an organism under their control by deliberately causing or permitting it to—

- (a) cease to be under their control or the control of anyone else, and
- (b) enter the environment.

4 Release of precision bred organism: notification requirements

- (1) The notification requirements are satisfied in relation to the release of an organism if—
 - (a) a person has given a notice (a “release notice”) to the Secretary of State in relation to the release, accompanied by—
 - (i) any required information (see subsection (3)(b)), and
 - (ii) any fee required by regulations under section 39, and
 - (b) any minimum period prescribed by regulations has elapsed since paragraph (a) was satisfied.
- (2) A release notice must specify one or more persons, or descriptions of person, in relation to the release.
- (3) Regulations may—
 - (a) make provision about the form and content of a release notice (but subject to subsection (2));
 - (b) prescribe information which must accompany a release notice (“required information”).
- (4) Regulations under subsection (3) may, in particular, prescribe whom a person may specify under subsection (2) when giving a release notice.
- (5) For the meaning of “release” see section 3(3).
- (6) Regulations under subsection (1)(b) are subject to the negative procedure.
- (7) Regulations under subsection (3) are subject to the affirmative procedure.