APHIS Guidance Regarding the Destruction of Potential Genetically Engineered Petunias

The Plant Protection Act gives the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) the authority to regulate genetically engineered (GE) organisms that may present a plant health risk, referred to as “regulated articles.” APHIS’ Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) regulates the introduction—meaning the importation, interstate movement, and environmental release—of GE organisms that may pose a pest risk to plants under APHIS’ biotechnology regulations at 7 CFR part 340.

BRS has learned that GE petunias have been imported, distributed, and grown in the United States without appropriate authorization. GE petunias are regulated articles.

The following petunia varieties have been confirmed by USDA to possess genetic sequences from plant pests, thus falling under regulatory authority of 7 CFR part 340:

- African Sunset
- Amore Mio
- BigDeal Freaky Fuchsia
- BigDeal Salmon Shimmer
- Bonnie Orange
- Bonnie Orange 15
- Bonnie Red 14
- Capella Red
- Cascadias Red Lips
- Cascadias Simply Red
- CO5369
- ColorBlitz Bright Red
- ColorBlitz Fire
- ColorBlitz Pink Morn
- Confetti Garden Twist
- Crazytunia Cherry Cheesecake
- Crazytunia Citrus Twist
- Crazytunia Fire Cracker
- Crazytunia KaBloom!
- Crazytunia Maniac Pink
- Crazytunia Sparky Improved
- Crazytunia Star Jubilee
• Crazytunia Swiss Dancer
• Dekko Orange
• Famous Electric Orange
• Fortunia Early Orange
• Glow Bright Red
• Glow Fire
• Glow Forest Fire
• Glow Pink Morn
• Headliner Electric Orange
• Hells Bells Improved
• Hells Bells Orange
• Hells Fruit Punch
• Hells Glow
• Hoobini Pink
• KaBloom!
• Littletunia Red Fire
• Mini Rose Blast
• OR4842
• OR4877
• OR4875
• Pegasus Orange Morn
• Perfectunia Cherry Pop
• Perfectunia Coral Blast
• Peppy Cerise
• Peppy Red 2017
• Petunia Good and Plenty Red 2016
• Petunia Good and Plenty Orange 2016
• Petunia Good and Plenty Pomegranate 2016
• Petunia Salmon Ray
• Potunia Dark Red
• Potunia Plus Neon 2017
• Potunia Plus Papaya
• Potunia Plus Red
• Raspberry Blast
• Ray Salmon
• Salmon Ray
• Sanguna Salmon
• Starlet Orange
• Starlet Red
• Supertunia Flamingo
• Supertunia Raspberry Blast
• Supertunia Rose Blast Charm
• Sweetunia Hot Pink
• Sweetunia Hot Rod Red
• Sweetunia Orange Flash
• Sweetunia Purple Torch 2017
• Sweetunia Strawberry Ice
• Trilogy '76 Mix—Liberty Mix
• Trilogy Deep Purple
• Trilogy Mango
• Trilogy Red
• Viva Bright Red
• Viva Fire
• Viva Forest Fire
• Viva Pink Morn
• Whispers Orange

The regulatory status of the following petunia varieties have not been confirmed by USDA. They have been implicated as potentially being GE, as would any crosses with these varieties, and will be treated as GE until USDA confirms otherwise:
• 07336 (Orange Yellow Centre 749)
• 2016 FS Gold
• Bingo Coral Blast
• Bingo Mandarin
• Bingo Orange
• Bingo Orange Morn
• Cascadia Red Lips
• Charms Flame 2-140
• Colorworks Homare
• Confetti Garden Tangerine Tango
• Flamingo
• GN2012-01 Type Homare
• Go!Tunia Orange
• GS HellOrange
• Happy Classic Orange Morn 0-65
• Happy Classic Yellow Orange Stripes 0-82
• KwikKombo Color My Sunset
• KwikKombo Orange Twist
• Lipstick
• Maui Sands
• My Love
• My Love Orange
• Orange 15
• Orange Yellow Centre 749 (07336)
• Orange Yellow Zone 225
• Orange Star
• Pegasus Orange
• Pegasus Orange Star
• Pegasus Table Orange
• Perfectunia Mandarin
• Perfectunia Orange
• Perfectunia Orange Morn
• Perfectunia Red Improved
• Potunia Plus Violet
• Potunia Red
• Potunia Deep Purple
• Sentuna 2.0 GShell Orange Nr. 11-45
• Sentuna 2.0 Rose Coral 315
• Stars Yellow Orange
• Surprise Red 2017
• Surprise Hot Rod Red
• Surprise Orange Twist (2009)
• Trilogy Formula Mix
• Trixi Coco Bello
• Viva Orange
• Viva Orange Vein

The following petunia variety does not require BRS authorization for introduction. It has been found—through USDA testing or testing by a laboratory that has provided documents to USDA that demonstrate the ability to successfully test for sequences (35S and NOS promoters) present in the GE petunia event(s) currently known to be in circulation—not to possess the implicated genetic sequences from plant pests, thus not falling under APHIS’ biotechnology regulations at 7 CFR part 340:

• Sanguna Patio Salmon

This document serves as guidance to industry regarding how to destroy GE and potential GE petunias consistent with the regulations at 7 CFR part 340.

Any of the following methods may be used to destroy potential GE petunia plants if no seed are present:

• Double-bagged and incinerated
• Double-bagged and directly disposed of in a municipal landfill
• Burial under a minimum of one (1) foot of soil
• Autoclaving
• Composting, using a managed composting protocol

Any of the following methods may be used to destroy potential GE petunia plants if seed are present:
• Double-bagged and incinerated
• Double-bagged and directly disposed in a municipal landfill
• Burial under a minimum of one (1) foot of soil
• Autoclaving

Any of the following methods may be used to destroy potential GE petunia seed:
• Grinding
• Autoclaving
• Burial under a minimum of one (1) foot of soil

USDA is currently identifying varieties which may contain plant pest sequences regulated by 7 CFR part 340. As we identify additional varieties, we will provide updated guidance.

[Signature]
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10/18/2017
Date