



July 10, 2017

APHIS Guidance Regarding the Use of Third-Party (External) Laboratories for Testing of Petunia Varieties

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

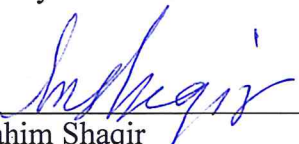
The following laboratories have provided documents that demonstrate the ability to successfully test for sequences from plant pests (35S promoter and/or NPTII and/or NOS promoter-NPTII junction) that are present in GE petunia. APHIS will accept test results from these laboratories to confirm the presence of sequences from plant pests regulated by 7 CFR part 340:

- Eurofins GeneScan GmbH
Engesserstraße 4
79108 Freiburg
GERMANY
Phone: +49 40 49 294 3403
Fax: +49 761 5038 211
- Eurofins Analytical Laboratories, Inc., DBA Eurofins GeneScan
2219 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 400
New Orleans, LA 70122
Phone: 504-297-4330
- Eurofins BioDiagnostics, Inc.
507 Highland Drive
River Falls, WI 54022
Phone: 715-426-0246



- Lifeprint GmbH
Industriestraße 12
89257 Illertissen
Germany
Phone: +49 7303 951 95 18
Fax: +49 7303 95195-55
- PLANTON GmbH (Mitglied Abt. BuG)
Am Kiel-Kanal 44
24106 Kiel
Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 431 380150
Fax: +49 (0) 431 3801511
- GeneCon International GmbH
Grengracht 39
D-52499 Baesweiler
Germany
Phone.: +49 2401 8960182
Fax: +49 2401 8960183
- Genetic ID GmbH
Am Mittleren Moos 48
86167 Augsburg
Germany
Phone: +49 821 74776-30
Fax: +49 821 74776-39

USDA is currently identifying additional laboratories which may demonstrate their ability to successfully test for sequences from plant pests by 7 CFR part 340. As we identify additional laboratories, we will provide updated guidance.



Ibrahim Shaqir
APHIS Associate Deputy Administrator
Biotechnology Regulatory Services
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture