

LSU Inter-Institutional Biological and Recombinant DNA Safety Committee (IBRDSC)

Policy: Transgenic Plants

Adopted 4/26/2012

Transgenic plants are plants possessing a single or multiple genes, transferred from a different species and created in the laboratory using recombinant DNA technology. Plants with a "non-regulated" status (commercially available) from USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) are not a part of this policy.

All research involving transgenic plants/seeds at LSU A&M and the LSU AgCenter and all of their associated research farms/stations must be approved by the IBRDSC prior to the start of any work. Even if some projects may qualify as exempt under the NIH Guidelines they still must register with the IBRDSC and be assessed.

Containment: The NIH guidelines outline methods for preventing the dissemination of plants (Appendix P-III-A-1). Appropriate containment and laboratory procedures must be clearly indicated in the IBRDSC registration form.

Disposal: Transgenic plants, including seeds and soil must be inactivated before disposal. Inactivation should be done by autoclaving and this should be clearly indicated on the IBRDSC registration form. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Environmental Release of Transgenic Plants and Seeds/ USDA APHIS Field Test Permits: The IBRDSC approves projects using transgenic plants grown in labs, growth chambers or greenhouses. Projects conducted outside of these locations constitute an environmental release and therefore must have an approval from the USDA APHIS Office. The IBRDSC requires an IBRDSC approval, a copy of the APHIS permit and plot information before the experiment starts.

Interstate Transfer: Receiving: Complete an IBRDSC registration if you are planning to receive transgenic plants and/or seeds.

Shipping: For shipping transgenic plants and/or seeds, refer to USDA-APHIS permitting and DOT requirements.

Research Incidents: NIH and LSU policies require that research related incidents be reported immediately to the IBRDSC through the Biological Safety Manager. Incidents include illnesses, inadvertent releases, improper disposal of biohazardous or recombinant DNA materials, failures in following the NIH Guidelines, etc.