

P.O.Box 30945
2500 GX The Hague
Internal Code 655
Tel : +31.70.3394893
Fax : +31.70.3391314

**Directorate-General Environmental
Protection**
Directorate for Chemicals, Safety and Radiation
Protection

Florigene Europe B.V.
Waardlaan 4A
2231 NA RIJNSBURG

June 3, 1997

C/NL/97/12.con

October 20, 1998

Consent to
placing on the Market
Notification C/NL/97/12

Dear Sir,

In response to your notification, forwarded to the European Commission by letter of July 29, 1998, for placing on the market of the genetically modified carnation line 66 registered under number C/NL/97/12;

Having regard to the Council Directive 90/220/EEC of 23 april 1990 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms as amended by Commission directive 97/35/EEC and in particular Article 13 thereof;

Whereas the specificity of the product is an ornamental plant sold as cutflower, cuttings, plants or offspring of the plants when used for breeding purposes;

Whereas the notifier, will add a sentence to the proposed labelling leaflet that will accompany the flowers throughout the chain indicating that the flowers are genetically modified to increase the vase life and are only produced for use as ornamental product;

Whereas the sulphonyl urea resistance is to be used as a marker trait only;

Whereas Florigene Europe B.V. has submitted additional information with respect to the molecular characterisation and the possibilities of hybridization with wild relatives, confirming the statements as made in the notification;

Whereas the competent authorities of other member states have not raised objections to the said notification;

Whereas based on the above notification, the appendices, the additional information and the above considerations, The Netherlands Competent Authority concludes that no reasons have emerged on the basis of which a consent to the proposed placing on the market should be withheld;

I hereby give consent, also on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, for the placing on the market of the product for which a notification is submitted, as forwarded to the European Commission by letter of July 29, 1998, registered under number C/NL/97/12.

The product consists of carnation plants (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L.), derived from genetically modified carnation line 66, in which the following genes are introduced:

- the *acc*-gene, coding for 1-Amino-cyclopropane-1-carboxylic acid synthase, derived from *Dianthus caryophyllus* L., under control of the constitutive 35S promoter derived from cauliflower mosaic virus and the nos terminator from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*;
- the *surB*-gene, coding for acetolactate synthase protein, derived from *Nicotiana tabacum*, under control of the constitutive 35S promoter derived from cauliflower mosaic virus and the *surB* terminator derived from *Nicotiana tabacum*.

The product includes progeny derived through vegetative reproduction as well as progeny derived through crosses of the genetically modified carnation line 66 with any traditionally bred non-genetically modified carnation plant.

The above mentioned genetically modified carnation plants derived from carnation line 66 are registered under consent registration number C/NL/97/12-66.

The Hague,

The Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment,
p.p. the Director for Chemicals, External Safety and Radiation Protection

dr. C.M. Plug