



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Plant Varieties and Seeds Framework for Precision Bred Plant Varieties

A consultation on a proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England, and the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for precision bred seeds and other plant reproductive material.

February 2025

We are responsible for improving and protecting the environment. We aim to grow a green economy and sustain thriving rural communities. We also support our world-leading food, farming and fishing industries.

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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at Defra-Plant-Varieties-and-Seeds@defra.gov.uk.

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Overview

The [Genetic Technology \(Precision Breeding\) Act 2023](#) (“the Precision Breeding Act”) received Royal Assent on 23 March 2023. Precision breeding technologies are modern tools for plant breeding that can develop new beneficial traits more efficiently and precisely than traditional breeding.

The Act establishes a new class of regulated products: Precision Bred Organisms. These include plants that contain genetic changes made by modern biotechnology, which could also have arisen by traditional breeding processes. The Act provides powers to amend legislation that applies to the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) in England, and to enable precision bred plants to be regulated differently from GMOs.

Precision Breeding and Plant Varieties and Seeds

The policy area of Plant Varieties and Seeds (PVS) covers Plant Breeders’ Rights (intellectual property rights of plant breeders), plant variety registration (variety listing), setting standards for marketing and certification of seed and other plant propagating material, and ensuring that these standards are upheld.

For the main agricultural and vegetable plant varieties, including amenity grasses, a variety must be registered on the Great Britain (GB), or Northern Ireland (NI) variety lists before seed can be marketed. This is governed by [the Seeds \(National Lists of Varieties\) Regulations 2001](#) for the GB Variety List, and [the Seeds \(Variety List\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2020](#) for the NI Variety List. To implement the Precision Breeding Act, a new framework for evaluating and registering precision bred agricultural and vegetable plant varieties in England is required. As part of this framework a Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England is proposed in addition to the existing variety lists to facilitate the marketing of seed of precision bred plant varieties. We are proposing to create new secondary legislation for a Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England using powers in the [Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964](#), and if appropriate, powers in the Precision Breeding Act.

We want to ensure that there is accessible information on precision bred plant varieties available to those that require it, for example, farmers who wish to grow non-precision bred varieties only. We are exploring a variety of methods and tools to communicate information on the precision bred status of plant varieties that do not require legislative changes, such as industry-led precision breeding plant variety registers, existing industry lists of recommended varieties, and the official Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette. We are also interested in exploring the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status in labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material and understanding what impact this would have on businesses.

The purpose of a public consultation

This consultation continues the collaborative approach Defra has taken on precision breeding and follows the previous [consultation on the regulation of genetic technologies](#) undertaken in 2021.

The purpose of this consultation is to gather feedback on the proposed Precision Bred Variety List for England. We want to understand how the variety listing of precision bred agricultural and vegetable plant varieties in England will impact businesses. The consultation also seeks to understand how information on precision bred plant varieties should be made available to those that require it, and what impact the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status in labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material would have on businesses. The consultation fulfils a statutory requirement. Section 16 of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964 contains a requirement for the Secretary of State to consult when making legislation using that power.

This consultation will be of most interest to:

- the plant breeding industry
- seed merchants and processors
- growers and farmers
- research institutes
- membership bodies and other organisations representing plant breeders and growers.

Outcomes of the public consultation

This consultation is an opportunity for a wide range of views to be gathered. The responses we receive will inform the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England and its implementation, future decisions on how information on precision bred plant varieties can be made available to those that require it, and the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status in labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material.

In accordance with standard principles, we intend to publish a response to the consultation. We will continue to engage with stakeholders once the consultation has closed.

How to respond

Please respond to this consultation using the [Defra Citizen Space Consultation](#) hub.

If you are unable to use Citizen Space, you can download the consultation documents and return your response via email to Defra-Plant-Varieties-and-Seeds@defra.gov.uk.

The consultation will run for eight weeks. The consultation opened on 17 February 2025 and closes at 23:59 on 14 April 2025. Any responses received after this date will not be analysed.

Confidentiality and data protection information

Using and sharing your information

How we use your personal data is set out in the consultation and call for evidence exercise privacy notice which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defras-consultations-and-call-for-evidence-exercises-privacy-notice>

Other Information

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office “Consultation Principles” and be found at: [Microsoft Word - Consultation Principles \(1\).docx \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Section 1: About you

1. Would you like your response to remain confidential (required)? [Yes, No]

If you answered Yes to this question, please give your reason(s) [Free text]

2. What is your name? [Free text]

3. What is your email address? [Free text]

4. Please tell us who you are responding on behalf of (required)? (Please select one option only)

- a. An individual – You are responding with your personal views, rather than as an official representative of a business / business association / other organisation.
- b. Non-governmental organisation – In an official capacity as the representative of a non-governmental organisation / trade union / other organisation.
- c. Business – In an official capacity representing the views of an individual business.
- d. Public sector body – In an official capacity as a representative of a local government organisation / public service provider / other public sector body in the UK or elsewhere.
- e. Academia – In an official capacity as a representative of an academic institution.
- f. Other please specify (please state)

5. If responding as an individual in Question 4, where are you based in the UK (required)? (Please select one option only) [England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Other (please state)]

6. If responding as an organisation, business, public body, or academic institution in Question 4, what is the name of your business / organisation? [Free text]

7. Which of the following areas does your business or organisation operate in (required)? (Please select all that apply)

- Plant breeding
- Cultivation of crop plants
- Seed merchant / processing
- Research and Development
- Other sectors / activities (please state)

8. If responding as an organisation, business, public body or academic institution in Question 4, where does your business or organisation operate (required)? Please select all that apply.

- UK
- GB
- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales
- Other (please state)

Section 2: Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England - supporting information

This part of the consultation provides more detail on the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England.

The need for new legislation

Breeders have made use of our understanding of genetics for many years to create new plant varieties. They identify plants that contain desirable characteristics and breed them together using traditional and modern breeding technologies to create a new generation that includes those characteristics.

Precision breeding describes a range of technologies, such as gene editing, that can make the same type of genetic changes as traditional breeding but in a more efficient and precise way.

The Precision Breeding Act 2023 provides powers to amend legislation that applies to the use of GMOs in England, and to enable precision bred plants to be regulated differently from GMOs. The implementation of the Act requires consequential amendments to be made to existing legislation, and new legislation. Until amendments and secondary legislation are made, a plant bred using precision breeding techniques could meet the definition of a precision bred plant but would be regulated in the same way as a GMO.

The proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England is one of the pieces of legislation required to allow precision bred plants to be regulated differently from GMO regulations. In addition to the new legislation for a Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England, consequential amendments in PVS legislation in relation to England are required to recognise the new definition of a precision bred plant as set out by the Act. The consequential amendments are not within scope of this consultation.

The proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England, and related consequential amendments, is the first planned change, with further legislative amendments for fruit, ornamentals, and forest reproductive material to be addressed in work commencing this year.

Plant breeders' rights

Plant breeders will be able to apply for [plant breeders' rights](#) for their precision bred plant varieties, in the same way as they can now for non-precision bred varieties. Plant breeders' rights provide a form of voluntary intellectual property rights to a breeder over a plant variety in the UK and allows breeders to collect royalties from their protected varieties. Precision bred plant varieties may meet the definition of an 'Essentially Derived Variety' as defined in the [Plant Varieties Act 1997](#). At present, there are no proposed

changes to the way in which plant breeders' rights are granted for precision bred varieties, therefore they are not within scope of this consultation.

Variety listing procedures for the GB and NI Variety Lists

For agricultural and vegetable plant varieties, including amenity grasses, a [variety must be registered on a variety list](#) before seed of that variety can be marketed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. To be added to a List, a variety must be Distinct, sufficiently Uniform and Stable (DUS) and for agricultural crops, have satisfactory Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU). This ensures that no new variety can be marketed unless it is genuinely new and an improvement on varieties already being marketed.

Applications for variety listing are made online using UPOV PRISMA where they are assessed and processed by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). Applicants are required to send samples of their seeds for DUS and VCU testing, if applicable. Ahead of listing, a variety will also require a proposed name and a maintainer. A maintainer is required to keep a record of all the generations of the varieties and allow authorised officers to inspect or examine any plants or plant materials and provide samples if required.

To apply to add a new plant variety to the GB and NI variety lists, there are [associated fees](#). Plant breeders can apply for plant breeders' rights at the same time as variety listing for the price of one administration fee.

Information on variety listing applications are published in the monthly [Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette](#).

Procedures for the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England

If a plant breeder intends to market a precision bred agricultural or vegetable plant variety in England, then the variety will need to go through the process for listing precision bred varieties in England. The process for listing a precision bred plant variety will mirror, as far as possible, the process and requirements of listing a non-precision bred plant variety, although there will be some additional steps a breeder will have to comply with.

A precision bred plant variety will not require consent under the [Genetically Modified Organisms \(Deliberate Release\) Regulations 2002](#) before undergoing evaluation to be added onto the proposed variety list. However, as detailed in the Precision Breeding Act, breeders will be required to have confirmation of an organism's precision bred status prior to marketing. This confirmation will be needed before a variety can be submitted for variety listing. Breeders will receive confirmation of precision bred status by applying through Defra, and their application will be considered by the [Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment](#) (ACRE). All precision bred plant applications and confirmations will be

published on gov.uk on a public register maintained by Defra. Precision bred plants intended for food and feed use, will also require authorisation from the [Food Standards Agency](#).

The two requirements outlined above are outside of the scope of this consultation. However, before a variety can be considered for listing, an applicant will need to provide confirmation of the precision bred status of the variety. Confirmation could take the form of a letter from Defra, and/or the unique identifier assigned as part of the precision breeding public register.

The proposed process and requirements for listing a precision bred variety on the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England are as follows:

- Precision bred varieties of regulated agricultural and vegetable plant species, including amenity grasses, will need to be listed on the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England prior to marketing. These are the same plant species that are regulated [when listing plant varieties on the GB and NI variety lists](#).
- Applications for listing on the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England will be made to APHA. An applicant can choose to apply for Plant Breeders' Rights at the same time to save on costs and time.
- As part of the application process, applicants will need to provide evidence that the variety has been bred using precision breeding technology as confirmed by Defra (for example, a unique identifier to cross-check with the public register, or a copy of a letter from Defra to confirm acceptance onto the precision breeding public register) – **this is a new step compared to the GB and NI variety listing process.**
- Applicants will need to provide samples of their variety for [DUS testing](#), and [VCU testing](#) (agricultural varieties only). APHA will organise the testing on behalf of applicants.
- During the application process, applicants will need to name their variety, following the [standard naming convention](#), and identify a [maintainer](#).
- A variety will remain accepted on the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England until the 31 December of the 10th year after it was added. An applicant can apply to keep a variety on the list after the 10th year by making an [application to APHA](#).
- The variety will maintain its listing on the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for its planned duration on the condition that its precision bred status remains – **this is a new requirement compared to the GB and NI variety listing process.**
- Information on applications for the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England will be published in the monthly [Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette](#) and will include information on:

- applications made
 - applications withdrawn
 - proposed decisions to accept or refuse a plant variety on to the variety list
 - decisions of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal made on an appeal
 - changes to a variety list award or application
- A proposed addition or refusal to the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England, as published in the Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette, can be objected against. This is known as making a [representation](#).
 - Appeals against decisions in relation to the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England can be made to the [Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal](#).
 - Applicants will be [charged fees](#) as part of the variety listing process:
 - administration fee for APHA for processing the variety listing application
 - a DUS testing fee per year of testing - this will vary depending on the crop being tested
 - a technical management fee for a VCU test for each year of testing, if applicable
 - VCU testing fee for each year of testing for agricultural crops, if applicable
 - administration fee for APHA processing representations (if made)
 - administration fee for APHA processing an appeal (if made)
 - Fees for DUS and VCU testing of precision bred plant varieties have yet to be confirmed. Fees are calculated on a full cost recovery basis and therefore fees for precision bred varieties may differ to the published fees for non-precision bred plant varieties. We will continue to engage with service providers and stakeholders and will publish further information in due course - **this is a change compared to the GB and NI variety listing process.**
 - APHA will keep records of all applications for the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England. This information includes:
 - when the application was received and its reference number
 - when the application was published in the Gazette
 - the name and address of the applicant
 - a description of the characteristics of the plant variety provided by the applicant

- the proposed name of the variety, as published in the Gazette
 - the unique identifier to confirm that the variety is derived from a confirmed precision bred organism listed on the precision breeding public register
 - any other information that the Secretary of State may ask you to provide
- For varieties that have been added to the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England, APHA will record:
 - the species, name and a description of the variety
 - when the variety was accepted onto the list
 - a summary of all the facts on which the acceptance was based
 - the unique identifier to confirm that the variety is derived from a confirmed precision bred organism listed on the precision breeding public register
 - when the listing will expire
 - the name and address of the maintainer
 - details of 10-year renewals

Anyone can access these records on request.

Impact on businesses of the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England

The consultation aims to understand any potential additional costs and other burdens for variety listing of precision bred varieties in England. Plant breeders with an interest in taking precision bred plant varieties to market will need to understand the new process and disseminate this information across their organisations.

The proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England will mirror existing procedures as far as possible but as set out above, there are some additional steps which will be unique to precision bred plant varieties.

Under the [provisional UK Plant Varieties and Seeds Common Framework](#), we are engaging with the Welsh Government, Scottish Government and DAERA in Northern Ireland and are committed to a four-nation approach to ensure that other parts of the UK are aware of precision bred plant varieties that are proposed for the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England.

The proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List will apply to England only, but there will be effects across the UK due to the application of the UKIM Act and the Windsor Framework.

UKIM Act: The application of the UKIM Act means that once a precision bred plant variety has been accepted onto the proposed variety list and seed of that variety has been certified in England, seed could be sold into Scotland and Wales under the [mutual recognition market access principle](#) unless an exclusion is put in place. Once present in Wales or Scotland, seed of a precision bred variety would need to comply with the relevant GMO legislation before it can be used (for example, cultivated or harvested) and entered into the Scottish or Welsh seed certification system.

Windsor Framework: The Windsor Framework takes precedence over the application of the UKIM Act market access principles. Under the Windsor Framework, all seed and other plant reproductive material moving to Northern Ireland from Great Britain needs to comply with EU requirements on plant health and GMOs. Before seed of a precision bred plant variety can be marketed in Northern Ireland, or enter the Northern Ireland seed certification system, it would need to be a variety registered on either the NI Variety List or the EU's Common Catalogue¹, comply with GMO legislation in Northern Ireland, and be certified to international seed marketing standards, including labelling.

¹ The common catalogues of varieties of agricultural plant and vegetable species list the varieties which can be marketed in the EU. Catalogues are based on the registration of plant varieties in EU member states after they have been technically examined there and notified to the European Commission.

Section 3: Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England - consultation questions

This section contains questions on the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England. Please ensure that you have read the supporting information in Section 2 before answering the following questions.

9a. Based on the explanation in the supporting information, do you understand the proposed process and requirements for the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties? (Please select one option only) [Yes / No / Unsure]

9b. Please explain your answer to the previous question [Free text]

10a. Do you think the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties will impact your business? (Please select one option only) [Yes / No / Unsure]

10b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what changes do you anticipate your business will have to make to adhere to the new legislation? (Please select all that apply)

- administration changes
- system changes
- other changes

10c. Please provide further details of any changes your business may have to make to adhere to the new legislation. [Free text]

11a. Do you think the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties will benefit your business? [Yes / No / Unsure]

11b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what benefit(s) do you think the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties may have on your business? [Free text]

12a. Do you think the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties will have a negative impact on your business? [Yes / No / Unsure]

12b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what negative impact(s) do you think the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties may have on your business? [Free text]

13a. Do you think your business will incur extra costs because of the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties? [Yes / No / Unsure]

13b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what costs do you think your business will incur because of the proposed Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England for agricultural and vegetable plant varieties? [Free text]

14a. Do you agree to the publishing of notifications of the Precision Bred Plant Variety List for England in the Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette? [Yes / No / Unsure]

14b. Please explain your answer to the previous question. [Free text]

Section 4: Information on seed and other plant reproductive material produced using precision breeding technologies - supporting information

Information on precision bred plant varieties

Some sectors of the farming industry will require clear, accessible information on the precision bred status of plant varieties. For example, legislation on UK organic policy regulates precision bred organisms as GMOs and prohibits the use of GMOs in production. Therefore, having access to the right information to inform decision making will be important for organic growers.

We have been exploring ways to improve the availability of information on plant varieties produced from precision breeding technologies that do not require legislative changes. For example, industry-led precision breeding plant variety registers, existing industry lists of recommended varieties, and improvements to the existing official Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette. Through these measures, seed merchants, agronomists or growers will be able to cross reference the variety name they are looking to purchase with precision bred status and exclude that variety from production should that be required.

In addition to non-legislative options to support informed decision making, we have been exploring the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status in labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material for cultivation. This information could be passed on or the labels checked by regulators where required. If the mandatory requirement to include precision bred status on labels for precision bred plant varieties were to be introduced, this would be in addition to the continuation of exploring non-legislative approaches.

Existing requirements for labelling seed and other plant reproductive material

The marketing, including the labelling, of seeds of the main agricultural and vegetable species in England is regulated by the [Seed Marketing Regulations 2011](#). The labelling of fruit plant propagating material is regulated by [The Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material \(England\) Regulations 2017](#), and seed potatoes by the [Seed Potatoes \(England\) Regulations 2015](#). In GB, the marketing of vegetable propagating material is regulated by the [Marketing of Vegetable Plant Material Regulations 1995](#), and the marketing of ornamental plant propagating material is regulated by [The Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material Regulations 1999](#).

Agricultural seed and vegetable propagating material

A package of agricultural seed must be labelled at the time of sealing, under supervision of a licensed seed sampler, whether they are seeds that require certification for marketing or not. The labels must meet the requirements contained in schedule 3 of the Seed Marketing Regulations 2011.

There are two types of labels for seed, official labels and supplier's labels:

- For small packages of agricultural seed, certified vegetable seed and for standard vegetable seed of any size, a supplier's label can be used which can be produced by the supplier themselves. The correct label colour for the type and grade of seed must be used, and the printed information on the label must be permanent and cannot be removed or fade.
- An official label, available from an APHA label contractor, must be used on any other package of seed. An official label must be fixed to the package by an authorised officer² of the Secretary of State, a licensed seed sampler or any person being supervised by such a person.

If a variety has been genetically modified, this must be stated on the label.

For vegetable propagating material, a supplier's document is required and must contain the information as specified in schedule 2 of the Marketing of Vegetable Plant Material Regulations 1995.

Seed potatoes

Seed potatoes can only be marketed if an official label is affixed to the package (available to order from APHA) and are correctly sealed. Sealing must be completed by an authorised officer or somebody under their supervision. The official label is combined with the UK Plant Passport. Information on labelling and the sealing of seed potatoes can be found in the [Explanatory Guide to the Seed Potato Classification Scheme](#). There is an exception for retail sales of seed potatoes of less than 50 kg where a document or notice can instead be placed in close proximity to the seed potatoes which contains the required information.

If the variety has been genetically modified, then any official label, official document, or other label or document, affixed to, accompanying or relating to the seed potatoes must clearly indicate this.

² An authorised officer refers to a person who has been granted the authority, by the Secretary of State, to undertake certain actions in connection with the Regulations.

Fruit plant and propagating material

Material officially certified as Pre-Basic, Basic or Certified must be officially labelled with labels whose design has been agreed with APHA and be packaged as specified in the legislation (regulation 10, the Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material (England) Regulations 2017). A [guidance document](#) is available on labelling and packaging certified fruit plant propagating material. The official label must state if the variety has been genetically modified. If certified fruit plants are being marketed to a non-professional final user, the label only needs to contain appropriate product information.

For fruit plant material [of CAC grade](#), the minimum category for sale of regulated fruit plant material, a supplier's document is required. This can be any document or label produced by the supplier containing information as specified in the guidance on [gov.uk](#).

Ornamental plant propagating material

For ornamental plant propagating material, schedule 1 of the Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material Regulations 1999 states the required information that must appear on a supplier's label or other document that accompanies the material.

Labelling of seed and other plant reproductive material produced using precision breeding techniques

The mandatory labelling of seed and other plant reproductive material to identify them as being produced using precision breeding technologies, would require legislative changes as this is not a current requirement within existing legislation. Mandatory labelling would apply to seed and other plant reproductive material that is marketed for cultivation.

The objective of this consultation is to gather feedback on what information businesses require on precision bred plant varieties, and what benefit and impact the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material would have. For example, the costs for producing a new label, and the administrative processes associated with labelling. We also want to understand whether a label indicating precision bred status would help with decision making or business planning. This information is required so that a decision can be made on introducing legislative changes regarding labelling of precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material.

As the policy on precision breeding is being implemented in England only, new labels and supplier's documents would be required for seed and plant reproductive material of precision bred varieties to be marketed in England. Where possible, new labels and supplier's documents would mirror existing requirements, as set out above, with the additional information of precision bred status. Only the precision bred status of the variety would be confirmed and information would not be required on the techniques used, or the

desirable traits or characteristics of the variety. A variety would have its precision bred status confirmed by its acceptance onto the precision breeding public register.

Precision bred agricultural seed and vegetable propagating material

The labelling of agricultural seed and vegetable propagating material produced from precision breeding technologies may look like the following:

A package containing precision bred agricultural seed must be labelled at the time of sealing, under supervision of a licensed seed sampler, whether they are seeds that must be certified for marketing or not.

There would be two types of labels for seed, official labels and supplier's labels.

- For small packages of precision bred agricultural seed, certified vegetable seed and for standard vegetable seed of any size, a supplier's label would be used which could be produced by the supplier themselves. The correct label colour for the type and grade of seed must be used, and the printed information on the label must be permanent and cannot be removed or fade. Supplier's labels for cereal, oil and fibre, and vegetable seed must include the words 'England rules and standards' instead of 'GB rules and standards'.
- An official label, which will be available from an APHA label contractor, must be used on any other packages of precision bred seed. An official label must be fixed to the package by an authorised officer of the Secretary of State, a licensed seed sampler or any person being supervised by such a person. Official labels for basic and certified seed, and commercial seed not certified as a variety, must include the words 'England rules and standards' instead of 'GB rules and standards'.

Both types of labels would state that the variety is precision bred.

For vegetable propagating material, a supplier's document would be required and must contain the information as specified in schedule 2 of the Marketing of Vegetable Plant Material Regulations 1995. It must also state that the variety is precision bred.

Precision bred seed potatoes

The labelling of seed potatoes produced from precision breeding technologies may look like the following:

Seed potatoes produced from precision breeding technologies could only be marketed if an official label was affixed to the package (which will be available to order from APHA) and correctly sealed. Sealing must be completed by an authorised officer or somebody under their supervision. The official label would be combined with the UK Plant Passport.

The exception for retail sales of seed potatoes of less than 50 kg will remain, where a document or notice could instead be placed in close proximity to the seed potatoes which contains the required information as listed in schedule 2 of the Seed Potatoes (England) Regulations 2015.

Any official label, official document, or other label or document, affixed to, accompanying or relating to the seed potatoes must clearly indicate that they are precision bred.

An official label for precision bred basic seed potatoes or certified seed potatoes must contain the statement 'England Rules and Standards' instead of 'GB Rules and Standards'.

Precision bred fruit plant and propagating material

The labelling of fruit plant and propagating material produced from precision breeding technologies may look like the following:

Precision bred material officially certified as Pre-Basic, Basic or Certified must be officially labelled with labels whose design has been agreed with APHA and be packaged as specified in the legislation. The official label must state if the variety is precision bred. If precision bred certified fruit plants are being marketed to a non-professional final user, the label only needs to contain appropriate product information, this includes its precision bred status.

For fruit plant material [of CAC grade](#), the minimum category for sale of regulated fruit plant material, a supplier's document would be required. This could be any document or label produced by the supplier and must include the variety's precision bred status.

Precision bred ornamental plant propagating material

The labelling of ornamental plant propagating material produced from precision breeding technologies may look like the following:

For precision bred ornamental plant propagating material, supplier's labels or other documents that accompany the material would include the current required information as listed in schedule 1 of the Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material Regulations 1999, with the addition of the variety's precision bred status.

Section 5: Labelling of seed and other plant reproductive material produced using precision breeding technologies - consultation questions

This section contains questions on the provision of information on precision bred plant varieties, and the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status in labels for seed and other plant reproductive material. Please ensure that you have read the supporting information in Section 4 before answering the following questions.

- 15a. What information, if any, on precision bred plant varieties is important to your business?** [Free text]
- 15b. In what format should this information be made available? (For example, an accessible list or register)** [Free text]
- 16a. Would the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for seed and other plant reproductive material to identify them as precision bred have a positive impact on your business?** [Yes / No / Unsure]
- 16b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what positive impact(s) do you think the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material may have on your business?**
[Free text]
- 17a. Would the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for seeds and other plant reproductive material to identify them as precision bred have a negative impact on your business?** [Yes / No / Unsure]
- 17b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what negative impact(s) do you think the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material may have on your business?**
[Free text]
- 18a. Do you think your business will incur extra costs if the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for seed and other plant reproductive material identifying them as precision bred was introduced?** [Yes / No / Unsure]
- 18b. If you answered yes to the previous question, what costs do you think your business will incur due to the mandatory inclusion of precision bred status on labels for precision bred seed and other plant reproductive material?** [Free text]
- 19a. Do you think your business will incur extra costs if no mandatory requirement to include precision bred status on labels for seed and other plant reproductive material is introduced?** [Yes / No / Unsure]

19b. If you answered yes to the previous questions, what costs do you think your business will incur if no mandatory requirement to include precision bred status on labels for seed and other plant reproductive material is introduced? [Free text]