

Genetically Engineered Loblolly Pine

First USDA
Approved GE tree



In 2013 the US Department of Energy, gave ArborGen and the University of Florida a grant of six million dollars to genetically engineer the loblolly to have more density.

January 2015 the USDA APPROVED ArborGen's GE loblolly pine tree with:

NO Government or public oversight
Risk assessments to people or environment
Regard to overwhelming opposition to GE trees

Secret USDA Approval was...

**Deliberate
Irreversible
Irresponsible**

Forest ecosystems are unique, complex, and fragile

Planting trees with genes for modified wood characteristics could have all manner of negative impacts on soils, fungi, insects, wildlife, songbirds, and public health.

The USDA deliberately thumbed its nose at the public with this decision...the biggest environmental regulatory change in the US since the early 1990s

These trees can be planted anywhere in the US, without public knowledge or access to information about them.

Natural range: 14 states from New Jersey down southeast coast and west to eastern Texas

RISKS: Increased fire danger; contamination of natural forests; increased pesticide, herbicide, and water use

Sources:

http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/files/ge_trees_2016_93322.pdf

<http://globaljusticeecology.org/outrage-us-secret-approval-genetically-engineered-trees/>

Learn more:

saveourroots.org



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