

US regulations creating confusion for regulation of GMO mosquitos

The number of [Zika] cases in the United States is continuing to increase, as are the known modes of transmission...One innovative approach is the creation of a self-destructing, genetically-engineered mosquito from the British company Oxitec.

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This approach has been successfully tested in Malaysia, Brazil, Panama and the Cayman Islands, with greater than 90% suppression of the wild population of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes.

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[However, t]he review of the proposed Oxitec field trial by the Food and Drug Administration has been an embarrassment....

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FDA regulates the genetic material introduced into the Oxitec mosquito as a “new animal drug”...The rationale is that introducing DNA into the genome of the mosquitoes is analogous to dosing them with a drug.

That presents a bizarre...regulatory conundrum, because...[r]egulators would somehow have to conclude that the genetic material that causes a male mosquito to self-destruct after producing defective offspring is *safe and effective for the mosquito*.

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It is past time for the White House and its regulatory agencies to unsnarl the tangle they’ve created.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Why Are The Feds Blocking Technologies To Control The Mosquitoes That Spread Zika Virus?](#)