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John Calder Our ref: RFI 9533 email: request-448653-208afb87@whatdotheyknow.com 8 December 2017

Dear Mr Calder

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: DEFRA (FERA) RESEARCH ON RAGWORT 2013

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 29 November 2017 about research undertaken for Defra in 2013, published in 2014, which concluded that ragwort is not becoming more widespread, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We enclose a link to the information you requested:

Review of evidence concerning ragwort impacts, ecology and control options.
October 2013. The Food and Environment Research Agency:
Review of ragwort evidence - FERA 2013

As the information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, section 21 of the FOIA exempts Defra from providing a copy of the information with this response to your request.

We attach an annex giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Guy Mawhinney

Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk



Annex

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Nick Teall, Head of Information Rights, Area 4A, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: lnformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF