

NON-ECONOMIC VALUE

- While many plants have parts that can be useful for humans in terms of economic value, there are other uses for humans and other species that are not easily quantified, but can be important. Some examples of these uses include use as shelter, food, and reproduction sites for other species. The release of a GM plant may alter richness and abundance of existing plants within an area, or could possibly add to biodiversity (see the Richness and Abundance section for further discussion). Large plants can offer sources of shade to mammals, and in the case of humans, plants can be of value for their aesthetic qualities.
- Does the GM plant have non-economic uses?
- How will the release of the plant affect non-economic uses of other plants and the species that utilize them?