



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

15 October 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Stakeholder engagement on the regulation of *Meloidogyne javanica*

I am writing to notify you of a proposed change on the regulation of *Meloidogyne javanica*.

Background

The phytosanitary import regime in Great Britain is not static and is kept under continuous review to ensure that it continues to address any biosecurity risk posed to the UK, and that it meets our WTO obligations by being risk-based.

Meloidogyne javanica is currently regulated as a Provisional Quarantine Pest (“PQP”), with no associated special requirements, as a result all host commodities must be free from this pest.

Proposal

We plan to update the regulation of *M. javanica* following the conclusion of a recent risk assessment (provided in the accompanying Assessment).

A recent risk assessment concluded that *M. javanica* is present in GB and no longer fulfils the criteria to be a GB PQP. We therefore propose to remove *M. javanica* from the PQP list and instead regulate it as a Regulated Non-Quarantine Pest (“RNQP”). We plan to regulate fruit propagating material and fruit plants intended for fruit production of *Cydonia oblonga*, *Ficus carica*, *Malus*, *Olea europaea*, *Prunus avium*, *Prunus armeniaca*, *Prunus cerasus*, *Prunus domestica*, *Prunus dulcis*, *Prunus persica*, *Prunus salicina* and *Pyrus*. As a result, these plants would need to be free from this pest to be imported into, or moved within, Great Britain.



INVESTORS
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Any comments should be sent to plantpestrisks@defra.gov.uk by **12 November 2025**.

Comments provided in response to this letter, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental information Regulations 2004 (EIRs)

If you do not wish your response, including your name, contact details and any other personal information, to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your comments. Please note that if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for the information under freedom of information legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Yours faithfully

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