



Animal & Plant Health Agency

Plant Passporting Updates No.31: Decemer2020

Dear plant passporters, in this edition are items on:

- Reminder and update on UK plant passporting starting on 1st January 2021
- Plant varieties and seeds
- Fees and charges
- Growing Media and AD Guidance for Exports to the EU
- Seasonal pests and diseases on ornamentals and edibles
- Plant Health Risk Register December Updates

Reminder and new news about UK Plant Passports from 1 January 2021

EU legislation has continued to apply to the UK during the transition period which ends on 31 December 2020.

From 1 January 2021, the UK plant passport regime will change to reflect post-transition period plant health regulation. Summary of PP changes are:

- no flag;
- add 'UK' in front of the word 'plant passport';
- Protected zones (PZ) will cease and be replaced with Pest Free Areas (PFA) an internationally recognised approach;
- Country of origin broadly same as EU except to enhance bio-security, some high risk hosts of *Xylella fastidiosa* and plants

of Plant can only be labelled 'GB' at part D on a plant passport one year post importation.

- New to the UK plant passport is part E, this relates to goods from Northern Ireland.

See the [factsheet](#) for more details of what will be changing for Plant Passports (PP), including images of PP and what actions GB businesses need to take to be ready for 1 January. These changes apply to GB businesses involved in activities such as: the production, manufacture and supply of plants, seeds, timber and plant products. A PP is not just a traceability document, but attests that the plants covered by that PP have met the plant health standards of GB.

For the first 6 months of 2021, we will allow UK PPs to be affixed in an EU member state. This approach will be reviewed after 6 months. Those UK PPs should be in the correct format (outlined in Section 1 and Annex I of this factsheet) and should be attached correctly. Guidance on attachment is available on gov.uk and our [Plant Health Portal](#).

However, it should be noted that this extends only to the act of affixing a UK PP. EU operators will not be authorised to issue UK PPs, because they will not be authorised to do so under the GB Plant Health Regime. This means that it will be the GB operator who is responsible for the First Place of Destination of the relevant consignment who will need to be authorised to issue those plant passports and would be audited under the plant passport regime. It is also the GB operator's registration number that will go in Part B of the UK PP.

The UK PPs will have no legal status until they reach that First Place of Destination in GB. Non-compliances will be the responsibility of the GB operator and may prevent plants from being able to move on from the First Place of Destination.

If you are already authorised to issue PPs, you do not need a new authorisation to issue UK PPs. However, authorisations must be renewed on an annual basis, preferably on line [through edomero](#).

Contact your local inspector if you have questions or further guidance

Plant varieties and seeds

As with changes to the plant passport regime, please see the following [Q&A on Plant varieties and seeds](#) which covers plant variety rights, national list, marketing, Northern Ireland Protocol, DUS testing, seed and ware potatoes, plant health requirements and Rest of World (RoW).

Fees and Charges

Defra and APHA have recently completed the annual refresh of fees. The cost base has remained stable across plant health services. In 2019/20 the cost base was £5.796m, an increase of only 0.5% on the 2018/19 cost base of £5.768m. Details are on the [Defra plant health portal](#) .

Given this stability on the cost base, APHA and Defra have decided not to amend the existing fees until October 2022.

Growing Media and AD Guidance for Exports to the EU

Businesses may have moved plant material under the plant passport regime to the EU under the single market. Growing media attached to or associated with plants will need to meet the EU's third country import requirements from 1st January 2021,

see the [Plant Health Portal](#) for more details. There are several options that are available to exporters to enable them to meet these requirements, as well as some treatment methods for certain options. Exporters should still check with the importing Member State prior to export to ensure that their goods have met the below requirements.

Seasonal pests and diseases

Help prevent these pests and disease from entering and being spread in the UK.

Ornamentals

- [Bacterial spot and canker of Prunus](#) is caused by *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *pruni*. Although potentially damaging on all *Prunus* species, the most severely affected stone fruit hosts are peach, apricot and plum, the disease is notifiable.
- [Xylella fastidiosa fact sheet](#) and [information note](#) on where in the EU it is present. It is notifiable in the UK.
- [Granulate Ambrosia beetle](#) (*Xylosandrus crassiusculus*) is a bark beetle native to Asia, but is now found globally including in Europe. It was first noted in Italy in 2003 and spread to France in 2014. It is now found in France, Italy, Slovenia, and Spain. The pest is notifiable in the UK. The beetle attacks many species of woody plants and is a pest of broadleaved trees. Where introduced it has become a pest of fruit tree orchards and ornamental tree nurseries. This beetle usually prefers stressed trees, but it is also known to attack healthy young trees as well as stacked timber.

Edibles

- [Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit virus](#) hosts are tomato and pepper. This notifiable disease can move in seed and on fruit.
- [Leafminers](#) damaging pests of a wide range of crops, the *Liriomyza* Leafminers in particular attack ornamentals and edible crops and can cause severe damage and unmarketable crops.

Pest and diseases added to the Plant Health Risk Register, December 2020

Defra risk analysts have recently made some additions and reviews to the Risk Register:

New to the Risk Register:

- [Diaporthe caulivora](#) – a fungal pest of soybean
- [Diaporthe sojae](#) – a fungal pest of beans including soybean
- [Leek yellow stripe virus](#) – a pest of leeks and garlic

The record for *Euwallacea* sp. (an ambrosia beetle, also known as shot hole borers) has been split into 4 new entries:

- [Euwallacea fornicator](#)
- [Euwallacea fornicatus](#)
- [Euwallacea kuroshio](#)
- [Euwallacea perbrevis](#)

Six *Xiphinema* nematodes:

- [Xiphinema americanum sensu stricto](#)
- [Xiphinema diversicaudatum](#)

- [Xiphinema inaequale](#)
- [Xiphinema index](#)
- [Xiphinema intermedium](#)
- [Xiphinema tarjanense](#)

Recently reviewed (though scores may not have changed):

- [Xiphinema bakeri](#)
- [Xiphinema brasilense](#)
- [Xiphinema chambersi](#)
- [Xiphinema brevicolle](#)
- [Xiphinema bricolense](#)
- [Xiphinema elongatum](#)
- [Xiphinema californicum](#)
- [Xiphinema incognitum](#)
- [Xiphinema insigne](#)
- [Xiphinema pachtaicum](#)
- [Xiphinema rivesi](#) (newly split into 2 entries: European and non-European)
- [Xiphinema thornei](#)

Get in touch

Always check your plants for symptoms. If you suspect disease, or have any queries, please speak to your local plant inspector or contact PHSI HQ (planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk or 0300 100 0313).

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