



Animal & Plant Health Agency

Plant Passporting Update No. 45

August 2023



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Windsor Framework – Northern Ireland plant health label (NIPHL) Scheme

As previously communicated, the Northern Ireland Protocol is to be replaced by the Windsor Framework. This framework includes a Northern Ireland Plant Health Label (NIPHL) scheme which will allow plants for planting, seeds, seed potatoes, and used agricultural and forestry machinery to move from Great Britain to Northern Ireland between professional operators, without requiring phytosanitary certification.

You should have received an email about the Windsor Framework on 14 August, asking you to let us know whether you intend to move goods to Northern Ireland. If you haven't yet responded please do so as soon as possible [via this form](#).

Certain plant species require additional inspection during the growing season to permit subsequent movement to Northern Ireland. Whilst many of these plants can be inspected as part of plant passport inspections, there are a number which cannot. Your response will help us to plan any additional inspections required to enable goods to move to Northern Ireland under the NIPHL scheme.

Please send any queries on about the Windsor Framework to traders@defra.gov.uk

Research into plant health goods moving from Great Britain to Northern Ireland

Defra is looking to speak to people who have moved or intend to move the following from Great Britain to Northern Ireland:

- Plants for planting, including seeds
- Seed Potatoes
- Used Agricultural or Forestry Machinery

The aim of this is to develop Defra services related to the Northern Ireland Plant Health Label scheme, under [The Windsor Framework - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk). All conversations will be anonymous, and at a time to suit you.

By taking part in this user research, you will be able to help shape the services being developed so that they better suit your needs.

Activities that you might be invited to participate in include answering questions, carrying out tasks, testing versions of services to see what works best for you, and providing feedback on guidance or documentation.

If you are interested, please [fill in this form](#) and one of our researchers will be in touch.

UK interceptions of quarantine pests

You can find details of recent interceptions we've made on plants and plant material on the [UK plant health information portal](#). The data gives a good overview of current pests and diseases that could pose a threat to businesses, growers and traders.

The data shows the pests we've found as well as the host and country of origin. They are separated into those due to presence of harmful organisms and those due to all other non-compliances, for example documentary infringements.

In July to mid-August [Bemisia tabaci](#) was the most frequently detected quarantine pest, and the cryptic pest [Opogona sacchari](#) (Banana moth) is a significant pest of ornamentals and has a wide host range.

[See our latest interceptions](#)

Seasonal pests and diseases

Help us prevent these pests and disease from entering and being spread in the UK. We have included information on various pest threats below, which you need to be aware of:

Ornamental plants

Xylella fastidiosa

The bacterial disease [Xylella fastidiosa](#) colonises xylem vessels, blocking them leading to disease symptoms which include wilts, diebacks, stunts and leaf scorches. The bacterium is spread by xylem feeding insects, such as the meadow spittlebug (*Philaenus spumarius*), a very common species in the UK and Europe. See [pest alert Xylella fastidiosa](#) and [Xylella fastidiosa consumer update](#)

The disease was first confirmed in Europe in 2013 (and identified as a new strain related to the subspecies *pauca*) from Puglia in southern Italy where it has devastated olive plantations. Since 2013, *Xylella fastidiosa* has been reported in

southern Italy, France including Corsica, Spain including Balearic Islands, as well as several non-EU countries. The disease is not present in the UK.

Woody perennial plants (e.g. grapevine, olive, oleander, Citrus, coffee, Prunus spp. and hardwood trees) can be vulnerable to damage if vectors are present to spread the pathogen. Herbaceous plants growing in the environment may become disease reservoirs even though infections may be symptomless.

Xylella fastidiosa is not present in the UK and is notifiable. Inform your local inspector if you suspect the disease. [Report a pest or disease](#)



Citrus longhorn beetle

[Citrus longhorn beetle](#) (*Anoplophora chinensis*) is a serious invasive pest that is found in Southeast Asia, with outbreaks in Italy, Croatia, and Turkey. It can infest a very wide range of broadleaved trees and would be a major threat to horticulture and the wider environment if they became established. It is not known to be present in GB and is notifiable. [Report a pest or disease](#)

Edible crops

Thrips palmi

The melon thrips, [Thrips palmi](#) can cause damage to a wide range of glasshouse ornamental and vegetable crops, particularly plants in the families Cucurbitaceae and Solanaceae, such as cucumber, aubergine, tomato and sweet pepper.

Thrips palmi is not present in the UK and is notifiable, please [report any findings](#).

Spodoptera frugiperda

The Fall Armyworm, [Spodoptera frugiperda](#), is a native of north and south America, and since 2016 has been causing major impacts on crops in Africa. Larvae prefer to feed on grasses and cereals, causing high levels of damage on crops such as maize. However, they will also feed on a wide range of other plants and could be a potential pest of glasshouse crops in the UK.

Information on the Defra plant health portal

The [UK Plant Health Information Portal](#) offers a wide range of information to everyone to use as a resource.

Defra has refreshed and produced a range of new and updated pest and disease information:

Pest alerts – notifiable diseases

[Rose Rosette virus](#) - new

[Beet Curly Top virus](#) - new

[Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit virus](#) - new



Tomato brown rugose fruit virus (TOBRFV) - <https://gd.eppo.int>

Pest alerts – notifiable pests

[Colorado Beetle](#) - updated

[Lycorma delicatula \(spotted lanternfly\)](#) - new

[Corythucha ciliata \(Plane lace bug\)](#) - new

[Thrips palmi](#) - new

Pest factsheets – notifiable pests, some are major updates and new factsheets

[Aromia bungii \(Red necked longhorn beetle\)](#)

[Spodoptera species \(Army worms\)](#)

[Meloidogyne chitwoodi \(Columbia root-knot nematode\)](#) - new factsheet

[Meloidogyne enterolobii \(Guava root-knot nematode\)](#) - new factsheet

[Emerging pests of maize](#)

Pest factsheets – notifiable diseases, some are major updates and new factsheets

[Xylella fastidiosa](#) bacterial disease of many plants

[Brown rot](#) of potato and other crops

[Ring Rot of potato](#)

[Xanthomonas arboricola pv. pruni \(bacterial spot and canker of Prunus\)](#)

[Karnal Bunt \(Tilletia indica\)](#) of grain

[Rose rosette virus](#) full factsheet

[Beet curly top virus](#) – new full factsheet

New factsheet on blueberry pests and diseases

[Emerging pests and diseases of blueberry](#)

Also on Defra's plant health portal are:

- [Contingency plans](#) for a range of pests and diseases. Contingency plans strengthen protection against plant pests and diseases inland includes a commitment to develop effective contingency plans and clear governance to help eradicate or minimise the impact when outbreaks occur. And the

- [UK Plant Health Risk Register](#) which you can download and manipulate the data to help you make risk based decisions on plants you buy and trade in to others.

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).

You can also get social with us:



Please contact the APHA.CorporateCommunications@apha.gov.uk mailbox if you no longer wish to receive these email notifications

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.