

Plant Healthy - Protecting our Plant Supply Chain and your business – Why and How

A one-day event organised by Defra, APHA and the HTA - 31 January 2023

The new Plant Biosecurity Strategy for GB

As the government publishes a new [Plant Biosecurity Strategy](#) for Great Britain, setting out a five-year vision for plant health including an action plan for national biosecurity, join us to hear about the need to take a proactive approach to protecting the horticultural trade, our cultivated landscapes and the natural environment from the increasing threat posed by exotic plant pests, including what action you can take to protect your own supply chain and your business.

Latest updates from Defra and APHA

You will hear about emerging threats and current high-risk pests, the Plant Passporting system and how Plant Health & Seeds Inspectors work to detect and manage these threats, the government's new Target Operating Model for managing imports and the latest social and behavioural research around consumer awareness of plant health and biosecurity.

Plant Healthy Certification Scheme

You will also hear about how the [Plant Healthy Certification Scheme](#), based on a robust standard of plant health management (co-designed by government, industry and third-sector organisations as the Plant Health Alliance), can help you demonstrably manage risks to plant health and build a biosecure supply chain that you and your customers can have confidence in.

To date the scheme has 32 certified member organisations spanning Plant Nurseries, Garden Centres, Retailers of plants for planting, Landscapers, Arborists and Public Gardens and you will have the opportunity to hear from and question some of these members during the event.

Working proactively

The word 'proactive' is the key tenet of the Plant Healthy scheme. Many traditional approaches are reactive i.e. they rely on end-point inspections to detect specific plant pests and do not address unknown pests. The Plant Healthy scheme adopts a systems approach which is proactive i.e. it minimises the risk of infestation by correcting unsafe nursery (and **horticultural**) practices for all pests. To find out more about the Plant Health Alliance and the Scheme please see the Alliance's [Five-Year Plan](#).

Working in partnership

Within the Plant Biosecurity Strategy for GB one of the key outcomes is for 'A Biosecure Plant Supply Chain', setting out how government and industry will work in partnership to support such a chain, and how creating a biosecure supply chain is vital to safeguarding the health of our plants. Plant biosecurity is a unique issue, and it is only by working together that we can minimise the risk of introducing and/or spreading harmful plant pests.

The Plant Healthy Certification Scheme provides a visible way for you to play your part in protecting the livelihoods of those in the horticultural trade and to allow everyone to continue to enjoy the diversity of plants that grow in our gardens and landscapes.