

 <p>St Helena Government</p> <p>BIOSECURITY</p>	<p>Import Health Standard for the importation of <u>COMPOSTS AND PEAT</u> into the Island of St Helena</p>
	<p>Issued in pursuance of the Customs (Export and Import Control) Regulations of 1988 and St Helena Plants Protection Ordinance & Regulations 1938, as amended.</p>

GUIDE FOR USERS

The information contained in this product import health standard is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of 4 parts.

PART A: General Information: contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for the ANRD composts and peat import health standard and the general responsibilities of each importer for these items.

PART B. Importation Procedure: contains sections which outline the requirements be met prior to and during importation and conditions of eligibility.

PART C: Clearance Procedure: contains sections describing the requirements to be met at all St Helena Island ports of entry and what may happen if the consignment does not meet the requirements of this import health standard.

PART D: Phytosanitary Certification: contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certificate and must accompany the consignment to St Helena, where this requirement is specified.

Part A: General Information

1. Import Health Standard and Importer's Responsibility

- 1.1 Pursuant to the Customs (Export and Import Control) Regulations of 1988 of the Laws of the Island of St Helena and St Helena Plants Protection Ordinance & Regulations 1938, as amended, this is the import health standard for the importation of composts and peat into the Island of St Helena.
- 1.2 Obtaining importation clearance for each consignment of composts and peat imported into St Helena is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import standard.
- 1.3 The following is prohibited and are therefore not included in the import health standard:
 - 1.3.1 Soil, earth, mud etc.
- 1.4 It is the importer or agent's responsibility to ensure they are compliant with the current version of the composts and peat import health standard at the time of importation of these items into St Helena.

2. Review of Import Health Standard

- 2.1 The import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes to policy or legislation on St Helena Island, or for any other lawful reason.

3. Definition of Terms

3.1 Inspector

Means the Agricultural Authority or a person appointed by the Agricultural Authority as defined under Section 3 of the Plants Protection Ordinance 2011 CAP 93, in addition to the Collector of Customs or a customs officer appointed under Section 4 of the St Helena Customs Ordinance CAP 145.

3.2 ANRD

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Division of the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate, St Helena Island.

3.3 Equivalence

Acceptance by the Agricultural Authority that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the biosecurity status of the consignment is equivalent to the biosecurity status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

3.4 Importation clearance

Means that products given importation clearance are free from all restrictions.

4. Equivalence

- 4.1 It is expected that the composts and peat permitted to enter St Helena will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the products do not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to the Biosecurity Officer for consideration prior to importation. Detailed information supporting the application for equivalence must also be forwarded for a decision, indicating which requirement can not be met and what measures of an equivalent nature have been taken to compensate.

5. Official Point of Contact

- 5.1 The official point of contact for this Health Standard is:

Julie Balchin, Biosecurity Officer:

Address: ANRD, Scotland, Island of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ

Telephone: + (290) 24724

Fax: + (290) 24603

Email: julie.balchin@enrd.gov.sh

6. Fees and Costs

- 6.1 All fees and costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining importation clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.

Part B: Importation Procedure

7. Licence To Import

- 7.1 Importations into St Helena of all composts and peat listed at Section 8.1.1 to 8.1.3 which meet the requirements of this health standard do not require a licence to import.

8. Eligibility

- 8.1 This Import Health Standard covers the importation into St Helena of the following composts and peat:

8.1.1 **Soil conditioners and potting mixes of plant origin:** manufactured fertilisers, soil conditioners and potting mixes made from plant materials, for example, seaweed extracts and mushroom growing media;

8.1.2 **Soil conditioners and potting mixes of terrestrial animal and avian origin:** for example, meat meals, bone meals, blood meals and by-product digests;

But excludes animal manure, hay and straw.

8.1.3 **Peat peat/peat moss/sphagnum peat moss:** defined as the dead material that accumulates in the lower levels of a peat bog. Harvesters of the horticultural peat moss remove the top few inches of the live sphagnum moss before harvesting the peat from the lower levels of the bog.

But excludes live sphagnum moss.

8.2 All **composts and peat listed at 8.1.1 to 8.1.3** above must be free of live insects, seeds, soil, mud, clay, animal faeces and undecomposed animal material and plant material prior to arrival in St Helena.

8.3 The consignment must be in unopened original bags from a commercial supplier. Bags must be clean and free from any contaminants. It is expected that the total amount of material imported at any one time is in the region of 100kg – 500kg.

8.4 Material **supplied loose**, such as in open canvas bags, can be imported provided that it is:

8.4.1 From a commercial supplier.

8.4.2 All consignments must be treated in the country of origin by fumigation, irradiation or heat treatment to kill live invertebrates and weed seeds. It is expected that the total amount of material imported at any one time is in excess of 1 tonne.

8.5 Any packaging used with the consignment must be clean, preferably new.

8.6 **Peat can carry foot and mouth disease of livestock.** The following additional conditions apply:

8.6.1 Peat originating in South Africa:

- Conditions outlined in 8.2 to 8.5 above;
- Each consignment must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate stating that:
 - ‘the product was inspected prior to export and found free of live insects, overburden, seeds, soil, mud, clay, animal faeces and undecomposed animal or plant material’.
- An additional declaration endorsed either on the Phytosanitary certificate or on a certificate issued by the relevant government animal health authority of the consignment must state:
 - that the peat covered by the certificate comes from areas in which foot and mouth disease has not occurred within the past 12 months; or
 - that the peat covered by the certificate was not sourced from an area within a three (3) kilometre radius of a foot and mouth disease affected property.

8.6.2 Peat originating in the UK:

- Conditions outlined in 8.2 to 8.5, above.

- In the event of a foot and mouth outbreak in the UK please contact ANRD Biosecurity for advice.
- 8.7 For peat originating in any other country, please contact ANRD Biosecurity for advice.

Part C. Importing Clearance Procedure:

- 9.1 An inspector at the port of arrival may inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment. Providing that the consignment meets the conditions of **Eligibility** the consignment will be given clearance.
- 9.2 If **soil, faeces, feathers, other animal related material**, or **seeds** are found on inspection the consignment may be confiscated and destroyed, at the importers expense.
- 9.3 If **live insects** are found during the inspection the entire consignment will be treated by cold storage as follows:

Store at -18°C for 7 consecutive days starting when the core temperature of the consignment reaches -18°C. A core temperature of -18°C must be maintained over 7 consecutive days.

- 9.4 Treatment will be at the importers expense.

Part D. Phytosanitary Certification

10. Application of Phytosanitary Measures

- 10.1 A phytosanitary certificate is only required for **peat originating in South Africa** and other countries of origin if requested by ANRD Biosecurity, as outlined in section 8.6.
- 10.2 The phytosanitary certificate must conform to International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures ISPM No. 12 Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates (2001) and any subsequent revisions.

Part E: Amendment Record – Import Health Standard for Composts and Peat.

Amendments to this Standard will be given a consecutive number and will be dated in the body of the table. Brief details of the amended pages will be included.

No.	Details	Date
1	First draft posted on-line	April 2015
2	Revised with new contact details for BSO	September 2015
3	Revised with feedback from public consultation and endorsed by EDC	October 2016