



St Helena
Government

Agriculture and Natural Resources Division

BIOSECURITY

Guidelines for importers of composts and peat

These guidelines accompany the Import Health Standard for the Importation of COMPOSTS AND PEAT into the Island of St Helena.

Composts and peat are capable of carrying weeds seeds, disease causing microbes, and harbouring potentially harmful insects, spiders and mites. Peat is capable of carrying foot and mouth disease. They therefore pose a biosecurity risk which these standards are designed to minimise.

- You do not require an import licence to import soil conditioners and peat into St Helena.
- Smaller quantities imported in sealed bags of up to 25kg per bag do not require any treatment before importation.
- Larger quantities imported loose, for example in open canvas bags, require treatment to kill any live insects or other animals in the country of origin. On arrival you will need to show proof of treatment, such as a fumigation certificate.
- As peat can carry foot and mouth disease which is widespread in South Africa a phytosanitary certificate is required for peat from South Africa. This is not normally required for peat from the UK.
- All consignments of soil conditioners and peat must meet specified import health standards.
- It is your responsibility to make sure the supplier or packer has a copy of the import health standard and understands that composts and peat must meet these conditions.
- It is your responsibility to ensure the consignments are free of live insects, seeds, soil, mud, clay, animal faeces and undecomposed animal material and plant material prior to arrival in St Helena.
- On arrival they may be inspected by an authorised agent.
- If they fail to meet the import health standards they may be refused entry, or confiscated and destroyed.
- If live insects are found treatment will be required, at your expense.
- Badly contaminated items may be refused entry to St Helena.
- Further information can be obtained from:

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