



St Helena
Government

Agriculture and Natural Resources Division

BIOSECURITY

Guidelines for Importers of plant material

These guidelines accompany the Import Health Standard for the Importation of PLANT MATERIAL FOR GROWING PURPOSES into the Island of St Helena.

Live plant material imported for growing purposes can be potentially damaging in two ways. Firstly, plant species new to the island could be invasive and become a weed on agricultural land and protected areas. Secondly, plant material can harbour pests and diseases which affect beneficial plants or St Helena endemic species. These standards are designed to minimise both of these risks.

- You must obtain a licence to import all plant material for growing purposes, prior to entry into St Helena. Applications for an import licence also require a business plan to be submitted.
- The import health standards defined on the licence will depend on the species of plant, the nature of the material you want to import, and the country of origin.
- An import risk analysis will be undertaken to assess the risk. For new plant species or imports from countries other than UK and South Africa this can take between 3 and 6 months to complete so you are strongly recommended to contact ANRD early on to discuss your proposals.
- All consignments of plant material must meet the specified import health standards. This could require testing for diseases which may also take time before the consignment is passed for export.
- Seed potatoes can be imported from the UK and South Africa.
- All consignments will require a phytosanitary certificate from recognised authority in the country of origin.
- It is your responsibility to make sure the supplier or packer has a copy of the import health standard and that plant material meets these conditions.
- On arrival the consignment will be inspected by an authorised agent.
- If they fail to meet the import health standards a fungicide or insecticide treatment may be required, at your expense.
- Badly contaminated items may be refused entry to St Helena, or be confiscated and destroyed.
- Further information can be obtained from:
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