



St Helena
Government

BIOSECURITY

**Import Health Standard for the
importation of
BIOLOGICAL CONTROL AGENTS
into the Island of St Helena**

Issued in pursuance of the Customs (Export and Import Control) Regulations of 1988 and St Helena Plants Protection Ordinance & Regulations 1938, as amended.

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 biological control agents 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 biological control agents into the Island of St Helena.
- 1.2 Obtaining importation clearance for each consignment of biological control agents imported into St Helena is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import standard.
- 1.3 It is the importer or agent's responsibility to ensure they are compliant with the current version of the biological control agents 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 biological control agents 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:

Dr Jill Key, Pest Control and Biosecurity Officer:
Address: ANRD, Scotland, Island of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ
Telephone: + (290) 24724
Fax: + (290) 24603
Email: jill-key@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 biological control agents listed at Section 8.2.1 to 8.2.2 which meet the requirements of this health standard require a licence to import once approval has been given, as detailed in Section 8.9. Applications for a licence should be made on the prescribed 'Application Form' available from ANRD and submitted to the official point of contact identified in Section 5.

8. Eligibility

8.1 This import health standard follows the guidelines for risk management as laid out in International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 3 "Guidelines for the Export, Shipment, Import and Release of Biological Control Agents and Other Beneficial Organisms" (2005).

8.2 This Import Health Standard covers the importation into St Helena of the following biological control agents:

8.2.1 **Invertebrate** predators, parasitoids, competitors or antagonists including: insects and mites.

8.2.2 **Pathogenic micro-organisms**, including: bacteria, viruses and fungi.

But:

- Excludes pathogenic micro-organisms formulated and commercially available as biopesticides
- Nematodes such as *Phasmarhabditis hermaphrodita* formulated as molluscicides are not permitted into St Helena as the risk to endemic land snails is considered too great.
- Excludes genetically modified organisms.

- 8.3 **Vertebrate** biological control agents will **not** normally be considered.
- 8.4 At the **first introduction** of a new species to St Helena, the process is as follows:
- The importer presents a plan to ANRD for the proposed introduction. The plan includes the information outlined in Section 8.5.1 to 8.5.3.
 - The plan is considered by a review panel consisting of representatives of the main stakeholders together with an independent external member.
 - The plan is subject to wider public consultation.
 - If approval is given, the importer then applies for an import licence.
- 8.5 For the proposed plan the importer must provide documentation accompanied by appropriate scientific references as follows:
- 8.5.1 On the **target pest**:
- Accurate identification of the target pest to at least species level, and information regarding any known related St Helenian native and endemic species.
 - World distribution and probable origin.
 - Outline of its known biology and ecology.
 - Justification for the use of biological control, including available information on its economic importance and environmental impact.
 - Possible benefits and any conflicting interests surrounding its management.
 - Known natural enemies, antagonists and other biological control agents or competitors of the target pest already present or used.
- 8.5.2 On the proposed **biological control agent**, a pest risk analysis to include:
- Sufficient characterization of the biological control agent or other beneficial organism to allow for its accurate identification, in general to the species level at minimum.
 - Summary of all available information on its origin, world distribution, biology, natural enemies, hyperparasites, and impact in its area of distribution.
 - Available information on host specificity (in particular, a list of confirmed hosts) of the biological control agent or beneficial organism and any potential hazards posed to non-target hosts.
 - Assessment of the risks posed to St Helena's native and endemic species.

- Description of natural enemies and contaminants of the agent and procedures required for their elimination from laboratory colonies.
- Information on any phytosanitary measures taken prior to shipment should also be provided.
- Identification of potential health hazards and analyses the risks posed to staff operatives exposed when handling biological control agents under laboratory, production and application conditions.
- Details of appropriate emergency action plans, should the biological control agent display unexpected adverse properties.

8.5.3 On the **material to be imported**:

- Source of the organism, with accurate information on locations of field sites, where appropriate.
- Nature of material and how it will be packaged and transported.
- Procedure, where appropriate, to identify accurately and, if necessary, eliminate from the culture the host upon which the biological control agent or beneficial organism was cultured.
- Procedure, where appropriate, to identify accurately and, if necessary, eliminate from the culture parasitoids, hyperparasitoids, pathogens and other contaminants.

8.6 In the case of a **second or further introduction** of a biological control agent already in St Helena, the following documentation is required:

- Up to date identification of both the target pest and existing population of biological control agents.
- Justification for a further introduction, with details of the first introduction, if available, and its impact to date.
- Information as outlined in Section 8.5.3.

8.7 Importers must demonstrate that they have **adequate capacity** (funding, staffing and facilities) for in-country containment and mass breeding, if appropriate, an appropriate release strategy, post-release monitoring of impact against both target and non-target species for at least 1 year post-release.

8.8 Documentation will be **reviewed by a panel** consisting of representatives of ANRD, EMD and other key stakeholders, as appropriate depending on the nature of the biological control agent and target pest. The panel will also include at least one external member from an independent internationally recognised organisation or agency, to provide an objective perspective on the proposed introduction. Examples of acceptable organisations include:

- Universities.

- Government agencies, departments and research institutes.
- Intergovernmental organisations.
- Regional institutions such as the International Centre for the Potato or CABI.
- Charitable organisations such as the RSPB, Flora and Fauna International, Froglife and Buglife.

8.9 Once the documentation as outlined in Sections 8.5.1 to 8.5.3 has been submitted the review panel will respond within a period of 3 months; this period is required to allow a full consideration of the proposal, and wider consultations may be required. The decision must be transparent and based on clear, scientifically justified grounds:

EITHER

- Approval of the proposal. The importer can apply for an import licence through the contact point given in Section 5.

OR

- Rejection of the proposal. Reasons for rejection must be given.

OR

- Request for further information in order to assess the risk and arrive at a decision.

8.10 In the case of **first introduction** the plan is subject to wider public consultation, as it involves the introduction of a new species to the island and is therefore of general concern.

8.10.1 An executive summary of the documentation and the review panel's decision must be made publicly available for a period of at least 1 calendar month through the media (newspaper article and radio announcements), on-line, and hard copies deposited in at least 3 public places (such as the Post Office, Library, ANRD reception etc).

8.10.2 The full documentation must also be accessible for consultation by interested parties.

8.10.3 At the end of the period the review panel will consider any issues raised and reach a decision as outlined in Section 8.9. The review panel will return a final decision within a period of 1 month.

8.10.4 The final decision will be based on scientifically justified grounds.

8.11 Importers must deposit authoritatively identified reference specimens of the imported biological control agent or other beneficial organism (and host(s) where appropriate) in the ANRD and / or EMD collections. It is preferable to

deposit a series of specimens, where available, to accommodate natural variation.

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

Part C. Importing Clearance Procedure:

- 9.1 An inspector at the port of arrival will 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 **other species not covered in the import licence** or **contamination by dirt or soil** are found on inspection the consignment may be confiscated and destroyed, at the importers expense.

Part D. Phytosanitary Certification

10. Application of Phytosanitary Measures

- 10.1 A phytosanitary certificate is only required where plant material is needed to maintain the biological control agent during transport, if requested by ANRD Biosecurity and detailed in the import licence.
- 10.2 The following Model Phytosanitary Documentation overleaf contains the information required and recognised by ANRD as equivalent to the requirements of **Part D Phytosanitary Certification**, and is approved to accompany imports of consignments of plant material into St Helena when appropriately completed by a representative of the exporting country's competent authority.

11. Model Phytosanitary Certificate of Export

**TO: Agriculture and Natural Resources Division, St Helena Government,
Island of St Helena.**

FROM: Agricultural Authority/Plant Protection Organisation of
.....

I. Origin of the Consignment

- i. **Origin of consignment (list country, state or territory)**
.....
- ii. **Name and address of exporter**

II. Consignment Description

(includes common and botanical name) of plant commodities, the type of material and their numbers contained in the consignment(s)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Material Type	Numbers by Material Type

Number and description of packages
.....

III. Destination of The Consignment(s)

Name and address of importer(s)
.....
.....
.....

IV. Declaration

This is to certify that the plant material described herein has been inspected and/or tested according to official procedures and are considered to:

- i. is free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing county (Island of St Helena) import licence document for the plant material;

- ii. conform to the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing country (Island of St Helena), including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.

V. Any Additional Declaration

.....
.....

VI. Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment

Date: Treatment:

Chemical (active ingredient)

Concentration:

Additional Information:

Place of Issue:

Stamp of Organisation

Authorised Officer:

Signature: Date:

(Please note: the official stamp of the Country's Government must be applied to all pages of phytosanitary certificate)

12. Model Phytosanitary Certificate for RE-EXPORT

**TO: Agriculture and Natural Resources Division, St Helena Government,
Island of St Helena.**

FROM: Agricultural Authority/Plant Protection Organisation of
.....

I. Origin of the Consignment

- i. **Origin of consignment (list country, state or territory).....**
.....
...
- ii. **Name and address of exporter**

II. Consignment Description

(includes common and botanical name) of plant commodities, the type of material and their numbers contained in the consignment(s)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Material Type	Numbers by Material Type

Number and description of packages
.....

III. Destination of The Consignment(s)

Name and address of importer(s)
.....
.....

IV. Declaration

This is to certify that the plant material described herein were imported into (country of re-export) from (country of origin) covered by phytosanitary certificate No. from original* certified true copy* of which is attached to this certificate; that the material is packed* repacked* in original* new* containers, that based

on the original phytosanitary certificate* and additional inspection* , they are considered to conform to the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing country (Island of St Helena), and that storage/quarantine in..... (contracting country of re-export) the consignment has not been subjected to the risk of infestation or infection

* Insert tick in appropriate boxes

have been inspected and/or tested according to official procedures and are considered to:

- iii. be free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing county (Island of St Helena) import licence document for the plant material;
- iv. conform to the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing country (Island of St Helena, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.

V. Any Additional Declaration

.....
.....

VI. Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment

Date: Treatment:

Chemical (active ingredient)

Concentration:

Additional Information:

Place of Issue:

Stamp of Organisation Authorised Officer:

Signature: Date:

(Please note: the official stamp of the Country's Government must be applied to all pages of phytosanitary certification)

Part E: Amendment Record – Import Health Standard for Biological Control Agents.

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		