



What is a Professional Operator?

‘Professional operator’ means any person, governed by public or private law, involved professionally in, and legally responsible for, one or more of the following activities concerning plants, plant products and other objects:

- (a) planting;
- (b) breeding;
- (c) production, including growing, multiplying and maintaining;
- (d) introduction into, and movement within and out of, the Union territory;
- (e) making available on the market;
- (f) storage, collection, dispatching and processing;

Are you a Forestry Professional Operator?

Examples of Forestry Professional Operators are those engaged in the activities above, including but not limited to:

- Forest Growers / Forest Owners
- Companies involved in establishment
- Nurseries
- Importers and exporters of wood products
- Importers and exporters of forestry plants
- Companies / persons involved in the movement of wood products within Ireland
- Companies / persons involved in the movement of forestry plants within Ireland
- Persons selling roadside timber
- Persons selling standing timber
- Firewood producers
- Woodchip producers
- Sawmills
- Bark producers
- Wood packaging material producers
- Companies / persons authorised to issue the ISPM 15 mark
- Any other forestry activity that falls into the categories (a) – (f) listed under “What is a Professional Operator”

Am I a professional operator?



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

A cohort of Forestry Professional Operators must register with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). DAFM is the Competent Authority within Ireland in regards to Plant Health.

Forestry Professional Operators who must register are those:

- Involved in the movement of plants, plant products, wood products, and / or other objects for which a phytosanitary certificate or a plant passport is required
- Involved in the import or export of plants, plant products, wood products, and / or other objects for which a phytosanitary certificate or a plant passport is required
- Professional operators who are authorised to issue Plant Passports
- Professional operators who apply for Phytosanitary Certificates from DAFM
- Professional operators who are authorised to issue the ISPM 15 mark.

DAFM may over time instruct other cohorts of Professional Operators to register due to the pest risk presented by their activities.

Farm Forest Owners do not have a requirement to register if engaging with a Registered Professional Operator (e.g. a registered forester) to carry out the above activities on their behalf.

To register, please see the section **How Do I Register for Plant Health?**