

Forest Health

How do I become authorised to issue Plant Passports?



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To be compliant with Regulation (EU) 2019/827, DAFM has introduced a method of assessing the (plant health) competence of Registered Professional Operators as part of the process to become Authorised to issue Plant Passports. The new Authorisation process includes an online assessment, and an on-site inspection by a Forestry Inspector.

A. I am registered for Plant health

If you have already registered for Plant health and have been issued with an F-number, you as a Registered Professional (Forestry) Operator should take the following steps.

1. Registered Professional (Forestry) Operators view the Technical Guidance Document available at the following link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#trader-information>
2. Registered Professional (Forestry) Operators take a competence test* consisting of multiple choice questions on the content of the Technical Guidance. The test is available at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#trader-information>

Your Plant Health registration “F” Number is required to take the test.

**Note: The pass mark is 80% and the result will be generated automatically. There is no limit on the number of attempts. Company name, email address and Plant Health Registration number of the Professional Forestry Operator will be required to complete assessment.*

3. Upon successful completion of the test, operators will be provided with confirmation of their result by email.
4. Professional (Forestry) Operators download and complete the application form for Authorisation to issue Plant Passports for Forestry Plants, Wood and Wood Products via the following link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#trader-information> and return it by email to forestprotection@agriculture.gov.ie, **together with a copy of the confirmation email of their results** (referred to in point 3). When corresponding by email please use ‘Forestry registration’ in the subject line.

Note: To complete the Application form for Authorisation the Professional (Forestry) Operator is required to provide details of a nominated contact/competent person responsible for the communication with the competent authority (Regulation (EU) 2019/827, Art. 1 (f)).

5. A DAFM Forestry Inspector will conduct an on-site assessment to confirm that the operator has the necessary equipment and facilities to perform examinations and the capacity to carry out the measures necessary to prevent the presence and spread of harmful pests (see the Technical Guidance Document for further information).
6. If the inspection stage is successful, a certificate of authorisation to issue plant passports for Forestry Plants, Wood and Wood Products will be provided to the Professional Operator.

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B. I am not registered for Plant health

If you are not registered for Plant health, you should become registered by downloading and completing the Plant Health registration Form for Forestry available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#trader-information>.

Completed forms can be scanned and emailed to forestprotection@agriculture.gov.ie. When corresponding by email please use 'Forestry registration' in the subject line.

Once you have become a Registered Professional (Forestry) Operator and have been issued with a plant health registration number ("F" Number) you should follow the steps under A - 1-6 above.

Further information about who needs to register for Plant health and the registration process can be found here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#trader-information>

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