

**TRADER NOTICE No. 3 OF 2023**

**29<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**To:** All professional operators and exporters of plants and plant products

**Subject:** Electronic Phytosanitary Certificates (ePhytos)

Electronic phytosanitary certificates (ePhytos) are the electronic equivalent of hard copy phytosanitary certificates. They are sent by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) to the ePhyto Hub which is a centralised system run by the International Plant Protection Convention ([IPPC - International Plant Protection Convention](#)).

The ePhyto Hub facilitates the exchange of ePhytos between National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPO). The Department is Ireland's NPPO. The existing national system, the Export Certification System (ECS), has now been updated to transmit ePhytos.

From 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023, the Department will no longer be issuing hard copy phytosanitary certificates for exports to certain third countries. This list of countries is included at the Appendix below.

The application process will not change on ECS. The only change will be that instead of receiving a hard copy of the phytosanitary certificate, an ePhyto will be automatically sent by the Department to the ePhyto Hub, via TRACES, which the receiving country will be able to access.

A copy of the ePhyto will also be sent to the email address entered by the applicant when applying for the certificate on ECS.

Should there be an issue with an ePhyto, the applicant will be informed by the Department and a hard copy phytosanitary certificate will be printed and sent to the applicant.

For exports to countries not listed at the Appendix below, there will be no change and hard copy phytosanitary certificates will continue to be issued.

**Appendix: Countries receiving Electronic Phytosanitary Certificates (ePhytos) from Ireland**

Argentina	Guyana	Paraguay
Australia	Honduras	Peru
Bahamas	Hong Kong	Philippines
Bolivia	India	Saint Lucia
Cameroon	Indonesia	Samoa
Chile	Jamaica	Senegal
Colombia	Jordan	Sri Lanka
Costa Rica	Kenya	Switzerland
Cote D'Ivoire	Madagascar	The Cook Islands
Dominica	Marshall Islands	Tunisia
Dominican Republic	Mexico	Uganda
Fiji	Morocco	United Kingdom
Finland	Nepal	USA
French Guinea	New Zealand	Uzbekistan
Ghana	Norway	
Guatemala	Panama	

Any questions in relation to this notice may be directed to the following email addresses:

Horticulture and Plants: [plantexports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:plantexports@agriculture.gov.ie)

Forestry: [UKForestryExports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:UKForestryExports@agriculture.gov.ie)