



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

# Assessment of Competency to issue Plant Passports

## Module 2: Plant Passports

Horticulture and Plant Health Division  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine



# Changes to plant passport system



- Since December 14, 2019 all plants for planting require a plant passport when moved from professional operator to professional operator.
- Plant passports now have a common format throughout the EU.



# Changes to plant passport system



- Plant passports are not required for plants, plant products and other objects supplied directly to final users.
- Exceptions – Online sales and Protected Zone host plants for planting must have a plant passport to end user.
- All distant sales operators must be registered with the Department.



# Regulation (EU) 2017/2313

## Format of the plant passport



- Plant passports must be visible, legible and be clearly distinguishable from any other information or label.
- As the size and characteristics of plant material can vary greatly, there is a certain degree of flexibility regarding format style and size of the plant passport.

# Format of the plant passport



- No specific requirements on
  - Size of plant passport
  - The proportions of the different elements
  - Font used or
  - Insertion of a border line.





# Format of The Plant Passport



- Rectangular or square shape and clearly separated from any other written or pictorial content.
- It is important to enhance the visibility of plant passports and to ensure they are distinct from any other information or label.
- Plant passports issued on or after December 14, 2019 must comply with the new format.
- Any plant passports issued before December 14, 2019 will remain valid until December 14, 2023




# Plant Passport (Regulation (EU) 2017/2313)

## Movement within EU Non – Protected Zone



- Upper left-hand corner: EU flag
- Colour or black and white
- Upper right-hand corner: Plant Passport
- A: Botanical name
- B: member state code + hyphen + registration number
- C: Traceability code
- D: Country of origin

	Plant Passport
A:	<i>Botanical Name</i>
B:	MS Registration Number
C:	Traceability Number
D:	Third Country of Origin

# Examples of plant passports non-protected zones






# What should a plant passport include



- The words 'Plant Passport' in its upper right-hand corner; the flag of the Union in its upper left-hand corner, printed in colour or in black and white
- The letter 'A', followed by the botanical name of the plant(s) species or taxon concerned, in the case of plants and plant products, or, where appropriate, the name of the object concerned and optionally, the name of the variety

	Plant Passport
A:	<i>Botanical Name</i>
B:	MS Registration Number
C:	Traceability Number
D:	Third Country of Origin


# What should a plant passports include



- The letter 'C.', followed by the traceability code
- The letter 'D.', followed by:
  - The name of country of origin or
  - Two-letter code of the country of origin
- Replacement plant passport, the registration number of professional operator who issued the initial plant passport or on whose behalf the initial plant passport was issued by the competent authority



# Examples of Plant Passports for Protected Zones

 Plant Passport – PZ  
(ERWIAM)

A Sorbus aucuparia

B IE – 1234

C 1107

D IE

 Plant Passport -PZ  
(THAUPR ENDORA)


A Quercus petraea

B IE - 1234

C A5781

D IE



 Plant Passport – PZ  
(HYPOMA)

A Populus tremula B IE – 1234 C 0702018 D UK



9 421023 610112

# Plant Passports for Movement into and within Protected Zones



- The words 'Plant Passport — PZ' in its upper right-hand corner, in one of the official languages of the EU and in English, if different.
- Underneath those words, the EPPO code(s) identifying the respective protected zone quarantine pest(s). The EPPO codes can be found here:



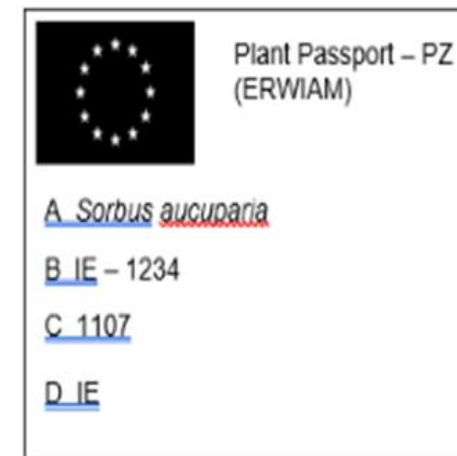
<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/77386/?page=1> (pdf 341Kb)

- The flag of the Union in the upper left-hand corner, printed in colour or in black and white

# Plant passports for movement into and within Protected Zones



- The letter 'A.' followed by the botanical name of the plant species or taxon concerned or where appropriate, the name of the object concerned and optionally, the name of the variety
- The letter 'B.' followed by the two-letter code for the Member State where professional operator is registered, a hyphen and registration number
  - For example, a professional operator registered in Ireland would record their registration number as:  
B IE - 1234





# Plant passports for movement into and within Protected Zones



- The letter 'C.' followed by the traceability code
- The letter 'D.' followed by:
  - The name of the country of origin, or:
  - Two letter code of Member State of origin
- In the case of replacement of plant passport, the registration number of professional operator who issued the initial plant passport or on whose behalf the initial plant passport was issued by the competent authority



# Conditions for changing Country of Origin



Plant Type	Change of Country of Origin
Container trees	Potted on for one full growing season* on the Nursery
Hardy Nursery Stock (Container shrubs/hedging)	Potted on for one full growing season* on the Nursery or is brought from a plug to a liner to a saleable state
Bare root plants (Trees, shrubs, herbaceous etc.)	Planting out for one full growing season* on the Nursery

\* *From dormancy to dormancy on site*

# Conditions for changing Country of Origin



Plant Type	Change of Country of Origin
Liners	Rooted through from potting rooted cuttings or seedlings on the Nursery
Rooted cuttings, plugs or direct stick liners	Cuttings stuck and rooted on the nursery
Seedlings	Growing from seed on the Nursery

# Conditions for changing Country of Origin



## Plant Type

## Change of Country of Origin

Transplants	Minimum of final transplant growing season on the Nursery
Bedding plants	Grown from seed on the Nursery or bought in, transplanted and grown in cells, multipacks or pots until rooted through before sale.
Plant Mixtures (Hanging baskets, containers etc.)	All individual plants must comply with the above requirements

# Possible questions and answers



## 1. I have a mixed container with five plant species, how should the plant passport appear?

- It is possible to have more than one species on the plant passport. If you have five plant species, then follow the format of the plant passport and at point 'A' list the five species of plants under each other. If one of plants is a host species for a Protected Zone, then this must have a separate passport

## 2. What will happen if I sell plants without an eligible plant passport?

- If you sell plants without an eligible plant passport these plants may be intercepted and destroyed. Also, your authorisation to issue plant passports may be suspended or revoked





# Possible questions and answers



**3. I sell plants for planting online. Do I need to attach a plant passport to these?**

- Yes, plants sold over the internet must have a plant passport to the end user.

**4. Does the plant passport have to be attached to each plant or will it suffice to have it on delivery note that accompanies the plants?**

- Plant passports must be attached to the trade unit of the plants, plant products or object before they are moved.
- If moved in a package, bundle or container, the plant passport shall be attached to that package, bundle or container. It is no longer required to put the plant passport on the delivery docket unless the delivery docket is physically attached to that unit.

# Possible questions and answers



## 5. Do all plants need a traceability code?

- The traceability code is not required for plants for planting prepared for sale to the end user without further preparation.
  - The following plants for planting, other than seeds of, require a traceability code “C” on the plant passport.

Citrus

Coffea

Lavandula dentata L.

Nerium Oleander L.

# Possible questions and answers



## 5. Do all plants need a traceability code? (continued)

The following plants for planting, other than seeds of, require a traceability code “C” on the plant passport.

*Olea europea* L.

*Polygala myrtifolia* L.

*Prunus dulcis*(Mill.) D.A. Webb

*Solanum tuberosum* L.

All protected Zone Host Plants

# Possible questions and answers



## 6. Do Garden Centres have to apply Plant Passports to final users?

- Garden centres selling plants for planting to the final user do not have to have plant passports attached in most cases. The exceptions to this are:
  - If final users are receiving those plants by means of sales through internet
  - If final users are receiving Protected Zone host plants for planting

# Possible questions and answers



**7. I only grow bedding plants. Do I have to have a plant passport attached to each tray of bedding plants I sell?**

- Yes, producers of bedding plants must comply with the plant passport rules.

**8. What do I do if the plants I buy from a nursery do not have a plant passport attached to them?**

- You should not accept plants that do not have a valid plant passport as there is no traceability with these plants and they may have to be destroyed.



# Possible questions and answers



## 9. What are two-letter codes for countries?

- Two-letter country codes are published by the International Organisation for Standardisation. They represent countries, dependent territories and special areas of geographical interest. They are defined in ISO 3166-1. You can view the ISO codes at <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/>

# Possible questions and answers



## 10. Do Christmas trees require a plant passport?

- Cut Christmas trees under three metres are not subject to plant passports.
- Cut Christmas trees over three metres or trees with growing medium attached must have a plant passport when trading from professional operator to professional operator



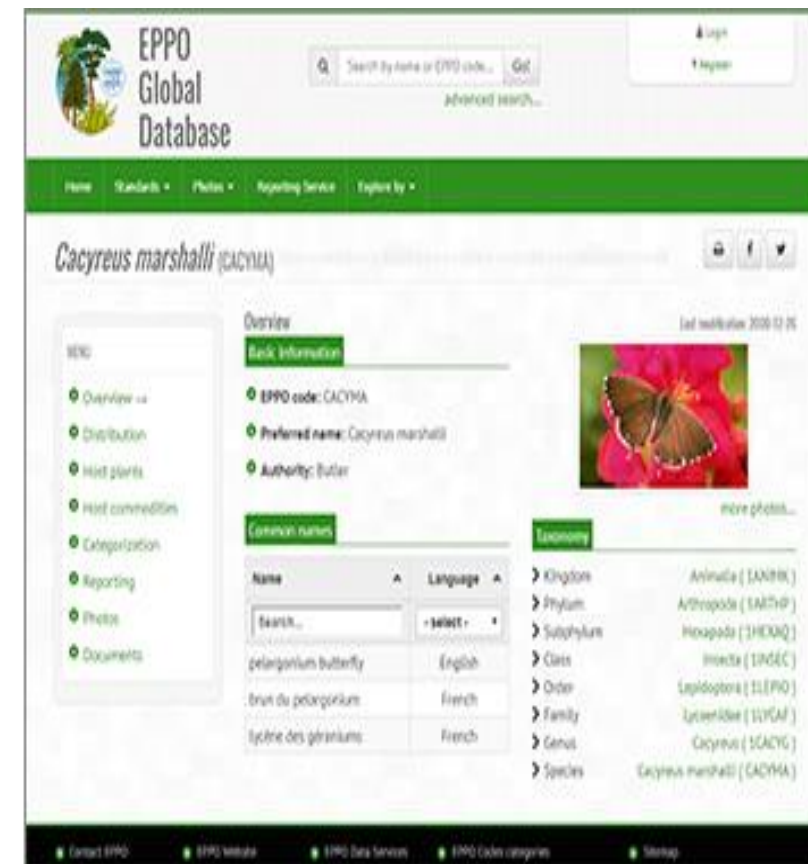
# Possible questions and answers



## 11. Does the PZ have to be named or is a number adequate?

- The Protected Zone must be named on the plant passport by using the EPPO code.
- Since December 14, 2019 letters/numbers are no longer acceptable.
- Each EPPO code should be included under the words 'Plant Passport — PZ' in the upper right-hand corner. The EPPO codes can be found here:

- <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/77386/?page=1> (pdf 341Kb)



# Possible questions and answers



## 12. Do all plant varieties need to be on a plant passport or is species adequate?

- The botanical names can consist of (1) the genus, (2) the genus + species or (3) the genus + species + cultivar

# Possible questions and answers



**13. If the plant I am selling is a host plant for more than one Protected Zone organism, what will I put on the plant passport?**

- You should include each of the respective EPPO codes under the words 'Plant Passport — PZ' in the upper right-hand corner.

**14. Can the batch number be on a delivery note and all other information on the plant passport label attached to plant?**

- No, all of the required information must be on the plant passport.



# Possible questions and answers



## 15. Must each plant in a garden centre have a plant passport attached to it?

- No, however, the garden centre must have a traceability system in place that can link each plant to the plant passport of the nursery that supplied that plant
- It will be up to the operator to decide what traceability system to use and, in some cases, that may mean having an individual plant passport on each plant

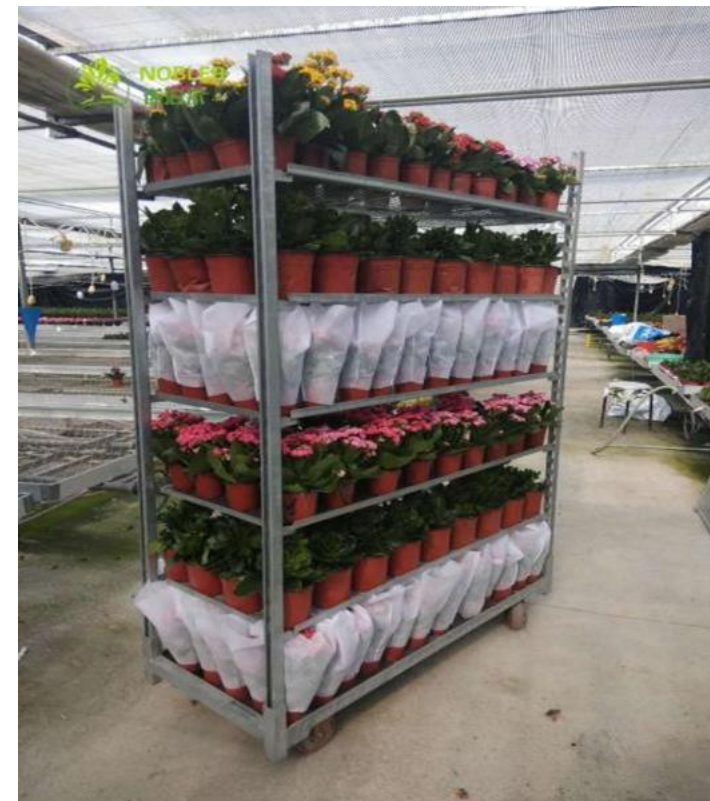


# Possible questions and answers



## 16. Do I need a plant passport for moving plants and plant products from one of my premises to another?

- Yes, if you move regulated material between your premises and they are located more than 400km apart, a plant passport is required to maintain traceability of the material.
- Movements of plants or plant products between two premises of the same registered operator which are located less than 400km apart are exempt from the requirement for a plant passport



# For Further Information

## Contact:

Horticulture and Plant Health Division  
The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine  
Backweston Admin. Building  
Backweston Campus  
Celbridge  
Co. Kildare  
W 23 X3PH

Tel: 01 505 8885

Email: [plantandpests@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:plantandpests@agriculture.gov.ie)



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

