



**TRADER NOTICE No. 1 OF 2019**

**30 January, 2019**

**To: All nurseries trading in 'High Risk Plants' from third countries**

**Subject: Import of 'High Risk Plants' from third countries**

### **High Risk Plants**

A new Plant Health Regulation was agreed in 2016 by the EU (Regulation (EU) 2016/2031) and is due to come into force on December 14, 2019. This new Regulation focuses on improving biosecurity, plant health awareness and it applies a risk based approach to plant health.

Under this new Regulation, from 14 December 2019 certain plants will be prohibited from entering the EU until a full risk assessment has been carried out. These are plants from third countries which were deemed, following several assessments, to present an unacceptable level of pest risk to the EU. As such these plants were added to a list of 'High Risk Plants'. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 establishes the list of high risk plants and this list can be viewed on the EU Commission Website by clicking on the following link:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R2019&from=EN>

Under the new Regulation there will be a system whereby the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of third countries will be able to submit a Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) to justify the trade in plants listed in the High Risk Plant category to the EU. This PRA will then be forwarded to EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) for assessment. EFSA are now ready to commence accepting and analysing PRAs from third countries.

### **Procedure to carry out Risk Assessment**

The rules concerning the procedure to be followed in order to carry out the risk assessment of high risk plants are detailed in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2018, which can be viewed on the EU Commission Website by clicking on the following link:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R2018&from=EN>

### **EFSA Webinar**

In order to assist NPPOs from third countries with the preparation and submission of dossiers, EFSA are running a Webinar on February 12, 2019. The link below provides details on how to register for the webinar:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/190212>

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If you are trading in any of these high risk plants from third countries, you should bring these new requirements to their attention and also the Webinar that EFSA are running next week.

In the event that you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact this office either by emailing [plantandpests@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:plantandpests@agriculture.gov.ie) or alternatively by telephone (01) 5058885.

Yours sincerely

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