

New

## The plant passport

nak  tuinbouw



***The plant passport has been a familiar concept for many years. But now a few things are going to change. The plant passport is to acquire a new look.***

On 14 December 2019 the new EU Plant Health Regulation will come into force. It will ensure that:

- nurseries within the EU will be able to continue to freely trade plant material
- the plant passport is more recognisable
- there will be less risk of the spread of pests and diseases
- it will be easier to trace potential sources of pests and diseases.

At our website you'll find more information on the registration regulations and the requirements relating to propagating material and the plant passport.

### **How to prepare for the new requirements**

#### **1. What do I grow?**

The plant passport obligation will be extended to include all 'plants for planting'. According to the EU definition they are plants that can grow into mature plants, and are meant to do so. These plants must be planted out, replanted or remain planted. So this will include everything we now classify as 'propagating material', but also all end products of, for example, pot, bedding and conservatory plants. Check whether this definition covers your crops. If it does, the plant passport obligation will apply to them as from 14 December 2019.

#### **2. To whom do I supply goods?**

The plant passport must be attached to the smallest commercial unit, which may be a lorry or a pot, for example a lorry transporting plants of the same type to a fellow grower. But in the case of, say, material that is to be sold via an auction or some other trade channel, a plant passport will probably be required per pot, tray, box, etc., to make it easy for traders to split up a batch without any need for new plant passports.

So the number of plant passports required will depend on what your buyer will be doing with the batch. Contact your buyers to determine the smallest commercial unit in consultation with them. What you decide will determine whether any extra work will be necessary further down the chain to replace plant passports when batches are split up.

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### 3. What must the plant passport look like?

The new plant passport must conform to format specifications that have been agreed on within the entire EU. This is new in relation to the present situation. The shape and size may differ. So you can choose the font type and size yourself. The information must be visible, readable with the naked eye, contained within a rectangular or square text area and separate from other text or illustrations.

The following are fixed elements of the plant passport:

- in the top left corner: the EU flag (in the shape of a flag and in colour or black and white)
- in the top right corner: the word 'Plantenpaspoort/Plant Passport'
- 'A' + botanical name
- 'B' + the Member State's ISO code, hyphen, phytosanitary registration number (9 digits)
- 'C' + traceability code
- 'D' + ISO code of the country of origin/production, also if this is the Netherlands



*This is an example. More models can be found at the [EUR-Lex-website](#).*

### 4. What must I do to be authorised to attach plant passports on a daily base?

If you are not yet authorised, Naktuinbouw can authorise you to do this. Your current authorisation will be cancelled. Please complete the form at our website:

[Bedrijfsautorisatie plantenpaspoort 'autorisatie'](#).

Make sure you attach the right examples of the employed plant passport elements (sleeve, plant label, etc.) to your email. It must also be clear for which products you are going to use the plant passport (please include a photo). After your application has been approved you will receive confirmation of your authorisation. To complete the authorisation, we will also need the phytosanitary registration number and your Naktuinbouw customer number, so please make sure you have them ready when you apply for authorisation.

### 5. I now use the suppliers document as my plant passport; may I continue to do so?

All information carriers on which you use plant passport information must be changed. Under certain conditions you may continue to use the supplier's statement as your plant passport. Those conditions are as follows:

- the plant passport must be used on the supplier's statement in the specified format
- all products must be simultaneously transported by a single means of transport. If this is not the case, the number of plant passports must correspond to the number of means of transport
- the supplier's document must be attached to the commercial unit (not separately!).

At our website we have created an example of a supplier's statement that can serve as a plant passport carrier to help you. The example also contains information on the individual items.

**NB:** the above information may change (the EU Plant Health Regulation is the governing regulation). Contact the responsible authority of the country where the company is located. For the latest information in Dutch, go to [www.naktuinbouw.nl/plantgezondheidsverordening](http://www.naktuinbouw.nl/plantgezondheidsverordening)