



Department  
for Environment  
& Rural Affairs

# PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE (PC)



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## A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE:

HOW TO OBTAIN THE CERTIFICATE, AND WHAT TO DO WITH THE CERTIFICATE ONCE YOU HAVE IT WHEN EXPORTING PLANTS OR PLANT PRODUCTS FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU), SWITZERLAND AND LIECHTENSTEIN INTO GREAT BRITAIN (GB).

**KNOW YOUR RISK TO BE READY FOR CHANGE**



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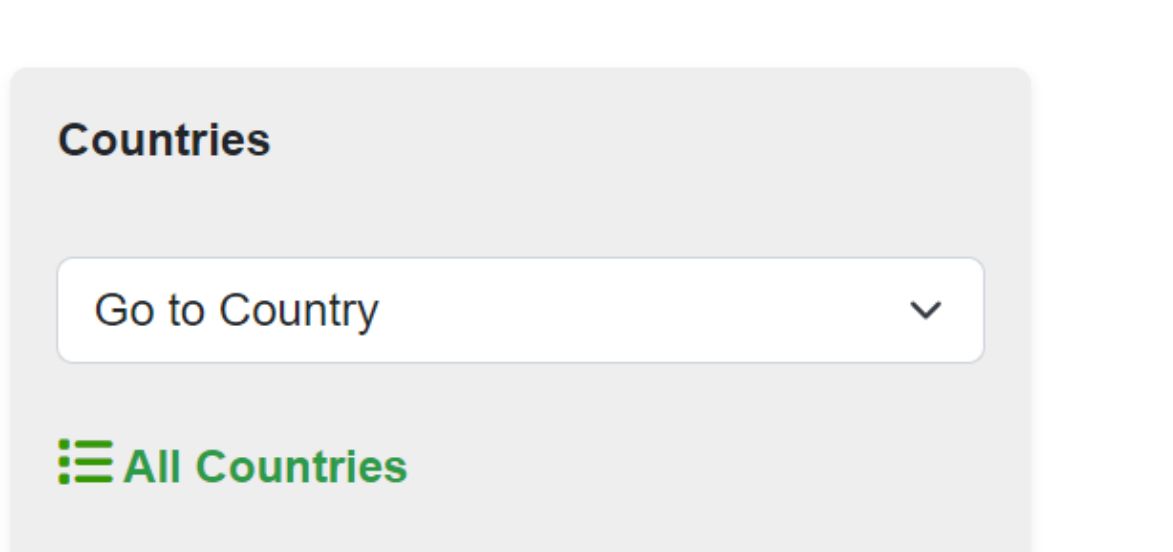


# HOW TO OBTAIN A PC

To determine whether the plants or plant products that you are exporting to GB require a PC or not, you will need to check the risk category of your goods and be aware of the upcoming changes to SPS import controls which have been set out in the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM).

- Check the risk categories for EU goods

You can find out who your CA is by visiting the IPPC website (International Plant Protection Convention). Once you've clicked onto the link, select the 'go to country' button on the right hand side and choose the country that you are exporting from.



*Screenshot from the IPPC webpage*



# NEXT STEP: THE CA RECEIVES YOUR PC APPLICATION

Once your CA has received your application, they will review this and make sure all the information is correct and compliant with GB import requirements.

The CA will contact you to confirm if the application is correct and agree a time for inspection or request further information.

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# FINAL STEP: THE CA CARRIES OUT THE INSPECTION AND TESTING

The CA will carry out the inspection and testing on the plant or plant product and once it has passed all checks they will issue a PC.

A PC must be issued no more than 13 days either side of the date the consignment leaves the country of export.





# WHAT TO DO WITH THE PC ONCE YOU'VE RECEIVED IT

Once the paper PC is signed, you need to send a PDF copy to the GB importer but must ensure the original paper PC accompanies the goods.

The GB based importer or person responsible for the load needs to make a pre-notification via the IT system IPAFFS. Here the importer/person responsible for the load will also need to complete a CHED-PP and upload the PDF copy of the PC to IPAFFS as part of the notification. This will also be where the importer needs to select where their goods are going to be checked, whether that's through a Border Control Post or at a Control Point. The pre-notification needs to be submitted at least 4 hours before the goods arrive in GB if entering via air or RoRo. All other forms of transport is 24 hours e.g. deep sea freight.

The GB based importer or person responsible for the load must ensure the driver brings these goods to the selected BCP if selected for inspection.



# HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THE GB IMPORTING REQUIREMENTS ARE?

Your CA is responsible for determining what GBs import requirements are. You can also refer to 'GBs Phytosanitary Conditions Regulation 2019/2072' legislation for more information.

The Plant Health Portal has detailed guidance on GBs import requirements and GBs requirements for special requirements, known as Additional Declarations (ADs), that may need to be included on PCs for Plants for Planting and Produce.





# MOVEMENTS OF PARCELS

Movements of parcels from one business outside of GB to another in GB are subject to the same risk-based requirements (import notification via IPAFFS, health certification and checks, dependent on risk) as any other import of SPS goods. Parcel movements of this kind will also follow the same implementation timeline for SPS controls.





# FURTHER RESOURCES



[GB Import narrative](#)  
[Plant Health Portal](#)

## CONTACT US



Email:

[planthealtheuexitqueries@defra.gov.uk](mailto:planthealtheuexitqueries@defra.gov.uk)

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