



Information Note: New Plant Health Legislation

Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 on protective measures against plant pests (“Plant Health Law”), will replace Council Directive 2000/29/EC and will come into force from **14 December 2019**. In summary this new Regulation will modernise the plant health regime, provide more effective measures for the protection of the Union's territory and its plants from destructive pests and aims to ensure safe trade, as well as to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health of our crops and forests.

The main changes to the existing Plant Health Directive (Council Directive 2000/29/EC) are:

- All plants for planting require a Plant Passport when moved between professional operator to professional operator.
- Professional operators must maintain records for plants supplied by them to other professional operators and for plants supplied by other professional operators to them for at least 3 years.
- Professional operators should also have in place systems and procedures to allow identification of the movements of plants, plant products and other objects within and between their own premises.
- All professional operators must register with the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the country. For Ireland the NPPO is the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- Each professional operator must provide a contact/competent person to be available to liaise with the NPPO.

For more information on Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, see:

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmingsectors/planthealthtrade/newplanthealthregulations/>