

HOW TO IMPORT PLANTS AND CUT FLOWERS





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First of all, you need to clear the goods into the UK and pay any outstanding duty and VAT, so your goods can enter free circulation in the UK. In order for us to complete a customs clearance, you will need an EORI number. [You can sign up for an EORI number here.](#)

There are a couple of different ways to pay any duty and VAT on your import.

- Payment upfront.
- Post vat accounting (PVA), allows for you to account for the VAT on your VAT return. Saving you from paying it upon import.
- Deferment account (DAN), lets you make a one off payment per month through Direct Debit, on all you imports instead of paying for each import.

We can calculate the Duty and vat before your import arrives, so you don't get any nasty shocks.

WHICH PLANTS AND CUT FLOWERS REQUIRE A PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE AND PRE-NOTIFICATION?

All potted plants and plants for planting are considered high risk and will require a Phytosanitary certificate and a pre-notification in IPAFFS.

IPAFFS is the UK GOV's, Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System. You will need an IPAFFS account in order to import your plants and cut flowers. [Click here to register your company on IPAFFS.](#)

Some cut flowers are classed as medium risk, and they will require a Phytosanitary certificate and pre-notification. They are: Orchidaceae, Dendranthema, Dianthus, Gypsophilia and Solidago. All other cut flowers are classed as low risk, no phytosanitary certificate or pre-notification is required.





Import Process

Documentation Required

- Commercial invoice
- Packing list
- Phytosanitary certificate

Transportation Process



At the packing warehouse, the Phytosanitary certificate, commercial invoice and packing list gets created. You then inform your haulier your goods are ready to be shipped.



While the goods are being collected, the export agent completes the export clearance. The import agent completes the safety and security declaration, IPAFFS pre-notification and preps the import clearance.



During transit the duty and VAT gets paid, and the import clearance gets approved. APHA checks the pre-notification and makes decision on whether to inspect the goods or not.



Once the goods have arrived in the UK and has passed all the checks, your goods are in free circulation and your goods can be delivered.





Inspection Frequency

Defra will want to inspect your cargo from time to time. The check frequency is: Woody plants 100%, non-woody plants 30% and medium risk cut flowers 5%.

Inspection Fees (Common User Charge)

The common user charge covers all SPS (sanitary and phytosanitary) goods arriving into the UK via Dover, that includes the ferry terminal and euro tunnel.

The charge is £29 per commodity, there is a limit of £145 charge per shipment. This doesn't affect the number of commodities you can import in one shipment.

This charge is applied to every SPS goods shipment, whether your shipment gets inspected or not. This will spread out the inspection cost, and stops you being lumped with a big inspection charge.

But again, this only applies to imports via Dover. All other ports charge you if your container/trailer gets selected for inspection. For charges into Felixstowe, London gateway, Southampton, Harwich, Immingham or Killingholme, please contact us directly.

Safety and Security Declarations

Safety and Security declaration (S&S) is also known as an Entry Summary declaration (ENS). Its purpose is to inform border authorities, so they can analyse the potential risk caused to the UK territory by goods crossing the border. [Check out our S&S FAQ here.](#)





CITES

Some plants require a CITES permit. To find out if your plants require a CITES permit go to www.speciesplus.net, and type in the genus and species of the plant you want to import.

If your plants do require a CITES permit, we can apply on your behalf, please contact us directly to discuss arrangements.

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland qualifying goods have no SPS checks. So, there is no requirement for a phytosanitary certificate. But a pre-notification in IPAFFS will be required.

T1 Cargo

If your goods have not been cleared into the EU, and have travelled through the EU on a T1, you have a different set of regulations to follow. Please contact us directly to discuss arrangements.

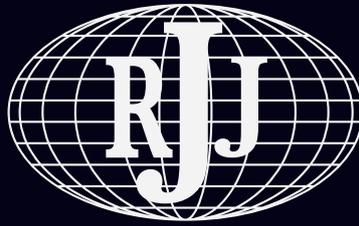
Trusted Trader Schemes

Control Points (CP) allows for your goods to be inspected by the animal and plant health agency (APHA) at your premises instead of a border control post (BCP)

Authorised Operator Status (AOS), allows for your goods to be inspected at your premises and your own staff to inspect the goods.

If you want to turn your premises into a control point (CP), or you want to be authorised operator status (AOS), you need to email Defra on: defra-ocr@defra.gov.uk





ABOUT US

As a family run company, we have core principles at the heart of everything we do. Our reputation has been built on exceptional Customer Service which is underlined by our Customer in Focus attitude. We are committed to offering our customers the products, solutions and services they need at the best possible price. We are passionate about what we do, innovative and forward thinking in the design of the products and services we offer. We respect commitments and comply with our social responsibilities which are reflected in our company Culture, Values and CSR statements.

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