

New *Xylella* Control Measures – 4 March 2021

Guidance for HTA Members

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1. What are the new measures?

Defra’s new legislation came into force on the 4th March 2021 and aims to increase control measures against *Xylella fastidiosa* entering Great Britain.

In a nutshell Defra are asking the plant health authorities in EU Member states to only sign off phytosanitary certificates for imports of *Xylella* hosts if there is 3 years documented evidence that the plants in question comply with the requirements, which includes having had the necessary inspections and are guaranteed free from *Xylella*.

Also, each National Plant protection organisation has to provide to Defra a register of those ‘Places of Production’ which conform to the requirements if they grow any *Xylella* high risk hosts (see below for the actual list and the specifics that Defra are asking for).

The legislation has thrown up a few questions that need clarifying, and HTA have asked those questions, but in the meantime, it may be more difficult or more expensive to obtain plants of the seven highest risk *Xylella* hosts.

Measures are introduced for all plants listed as *Xylella* hosts (see below for complete list), with even stricter requirements for 7 high risk hosts: • *Coffea* (coffee) • *Lavandula sp.* (lavender) • *Nerium oleander* • *Olea europaea* (olive) • *Polygala myrtifolia* • *Prunus dulcis* (almond) • *Rosmarinus officinalis* (rosemary).

The measures:

- 1. Plants for planting, other than seeds, that belong to the genera and species listed in the list of *Xylella* host plants, other than, *Coffea* (coffee), *Lavandula sp.* (lavender), *Nerium oleander*, *Olea europaea* (olive), *Polygala myrtifolia*, *Prunus dulcis* (almond) and *Rosmarinus officinalis* (rosemary), from all third countries:**

The plants must:

- (a) have been grown for at least three years or in the case of plants which are younger than three years, have been grown throughout their life, in a country which is known to be free from *Xylella fastidiosa*
or
- (b) have been grown for at least three years before export, or in the case of plants which are younger than three years have been grown throughout their life, in an area that is free from *Xylella fastidiosa*
or
- (c) in the case of plants which originate in an area where *Xylella fastidiosa* is not known to be absent, have been produced in a site that is:
- authorised as a site that is free from *Xylella fastidiosa* and its vectors,
 - physically protected against the introduction of *Xylella fastidiosa*,
 - surrounded by a zone with a width of 100 m where plants found to be infected with *Xylella fastidiosa* removed, and appropriate treatments against the vectors have been applied,
 - treatments to maintain freedom from the vectors have been carried out
 - at least two official inspections during the flight season of the vectors have been carried out.
 - neither symptoms of *Xylella fastidiosa* or its vectors were found in the site or 100m zone surrounding it, if suspect symptoms were observed, testing was carried out to confirm the absence of *Xylella fastidiosa*.
 - inspection and testing prior to export.

2. Plants intended for planting other than seeds, of *Coffea sp.* and *Polygala myrtifolia*, from any third country; -

The plants must:

- (a) have been grown for at least three years or in the case of plants which are younger than three years, have been grown throughout their life, in a country which, is known to be free from *Xylella fastidiosa*.
or
- (b) have been grown for at least three years before export, or in the case of plants which are younger than three years have been grown throughout their life, in an area that is free from *Xylella fastidiosa*.
and

in the case of *Polygala myrtifolia* (c) each lot of plants of *Polygala myrtifolia* has been subjected in addition to official visual inspection, sampling and testing.

3. Plants intended for planting other than seeds, of *Lavandula sp.*, *Nerium oleander* and *Rosmarinus officinalis*, from any third country:

(a) have been grown for at least three years or in the case of plants which are younger than three years, have been grown throughout their life, in a country which, is known to be free from *Xylella fastidiosa*

or

(b) in the case of plants which originate in an area where *Xylella fastidiosa* is not known to be absent, have been produced:

- in a place of production registered and supervised by the national plant protection organisation for a period of at least one year before the export of the plants
- the place of production and a 200m zone surrounding it is known to be free from *Xylella fastidiosa*.
- the plants have been subjected to an annual official inspection sampling and testing to confirm the absence of *Xylella fastidiosa*
- immediately before their export, the plants were subjected to an official visual inspection for the presence of *Xylella fastidiosa* where any symptoms are observed, testing should be carried out.
- the plants have been grown under physical protection.

4. Plants intended for planting other than seeds and plants grown for their entire production cycle in vitro, of *Olea europaea* and *Prunus dulcis* from any third country:

(a) have been grown for least three years or in the case of plants which are younger than three years, have been grown throughout their life, in a country which, is known to be free from *Xylella fastidiosa*

or

(b) in the case of plants which originate in an area where *Xylella fastidiosa* is not known to be absent, plants have been produced in:

- a place of production registered and supervised by the national plant protection organisation for a period of at least one year before the export of the plants
- the place of production and a 200m zone surrounding it is known to be free from *Xylella fastidiosa*.
- the plants have been subjected to an annual official inspection sampling and testing to confirm the absence of *Xylella fastidiosa*
- immediately before their export, the plants were subjected to an official visual inspection for the presence of *Xylella fastidiosa* where any symptoms are observed, testing should be carried out.
- Plants have been grown under physical protection.

2. What plants are on the *Xylella* host list?

The list being used can be viewed on the [Plant Health Portal](#) (Table 5) & is also shown below;

<i>Acacia</i>	<i>Acer</i>	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i>
<i>Ambrosia</i>	<i>Ampelopsis arborea</i>	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	<i>Ampelopsis cordata</i>	<i>Anthyllis hermanniae</i>
<i>Artemisia</i>	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	<i>Baccharis</i>	<i>Brassica</i>	<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	<i>Carya</i>
<i>Catharanthus</i>	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	<i>Chamaesyce canescens</i>	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	<i>Chionanthus</i>	<i>Chitalpa tashkentensis</i>
<i>Cistus</i>	<i>Citrus</i>	<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	<i>Coelorachis cylindrica</i>	<i>Coffea</i>
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	<i>Convolvulus cneorum</i>	<i>Coprosma repens</i>	<i>Coronilla glauca</i>	<i>Coronilla valentina</i>
<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	<i>Cytisus</i>	<i>Digitaria</i>	<i>Dimorphoteca</i>	<i>Diospyros kaki</i>
<i>Diplocyclos palmatus</i>	<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	<i>Encelia farinose</i>	<i>Eremophila maculata</i>
<i>Erigeron</i>	<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	<i>Erysimum</i>	<i>Euphorbia chamaesyce</i>	<i>Euphorbia terracina</i>
<i>Euryops chrysanthemoides</i>	<i>Euryops pectinatus</i>	<i>Fagus crenata</i>	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	<i>Fatsia japonica</i>
<i>Ficus carica</i>	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	<i>Fraxinus</i>	<i>Genista</i>	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	<i>Grevillea juniperina</i>	<i>Hebe</i>	<i>Helianthus</i>	<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>
<i>Hemerocallis</i>	<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	<i>Helichrysum</i>	<i>Hibiscus</i>	<i>Humulus scandens</i>
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	<i>Iva annua</i>	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	<i>Juglans</i>
<i>Juniperus ashei</i>	<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	<i>Lagerstroemia</i>	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	<i>Lavandula</i>
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	<i>Lupinus</i>	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>
<i>Mallotus paniculatus</i>	<i>Malva parviflora</i>	<i>Medicago arborea</i>	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	<i>Metrosideros</i>
<i>Mimosa</i>	<i>Modiola caroliniana</i>	<i>Morus</i>	<i>Myoporum insulare</i>	<i>Myrtus communis</i>
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	<i>Neptunia lutea</i>	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	<i>Olea</i>	<i>Osteospermum ecklonis</i>
<i>Osteospermum fruticosum</i>	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	<i>Pelargonium</i>	<i>Persea americana</i>
<i>Phagnalon saxatile</i>	<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>
<i>Phoenix roebelenii</i>	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	<i>Pistacia vera</i>	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	<i>Platanus</i>
<i>Pluchea odorata</i>	<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	<i>Polygala x grandiflora</i>	<i>Prunus</i>	<i>Pterospartum tridentatum</i>
<i>Pyrus</i>	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	<i>Rhus</i>
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	<i>Rosa</i>	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	<i>Rubus</i>	<i>Salvia mellifera</i>
<i>Sambucus</i>	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	<i>Sapindus saponaria</i>	<i>Sassafras</i>	<i>Setaria magna</i>
<i>Solidago fistulosa</i>	<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	<i>Spartium</i>	<i>Stewartia pseudocamellia</i>
<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>	<i>Streptocarpus</i>	<i>Symphyotrichum divaricatum</i>	<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
<i>Ulex</i>	<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>Vaccinium</i>	<i>Vinca</i>	<i>Vitis</i>
<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	<i>Westringia glabra</i>	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>		

3. I have heard that plants need to be quarantined for 1 year prior to export to Great Britain, what does that mean?

The HTA is seeking urgent clarification from Defra what they mean by referring to quarantine in their letter to the trade, including the practical implications.

4. How do I know whether the business I am buying from is authorised to sell the plants?

The HTA is seeking urgent clarification from Defra as to how to find this information.

5. What is the position for Northern Ireland?

The HTA is seeking urgent clarification from Defra about trading host plants to and from Northern Ireland.

6. What is the meaning of the phrase “not known to be absent”?

This means that surveys have not been carried out so the absence or presence of *Xylella* cannot be established.

7. What is the difference between plants for planting & plants intended for planting?

The HTA is seeking urgent clarification from Defra about the differences in terminology used.