



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

27 January 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation on changes to plant health fees

I am writing to notify you of changes, proposed by Defra and the Welsh Government to the **Plant Health etc. (Fees) (England) Regulations (SI 2018/289) and the Plant Health etc. (Fees) (Wales) Regulations (WSI 2018/1179)**. These changes are intended to take effect around autumn 2025.

The proposed amendments (detailed in **Annex A**) make changes to the fees charged in order to bring fees charged for APHA delivery of plant health services back into line with full cost recovery: it has been five years since the last fees refresh.

In addition, the proposed amendments will make changes to existing Fruit Propagation Certification Scheme fees to include an application fee to account for new work in this area. The proposed amendments will also update physical and identity inspection fees to reflect changes to frequency of inspections for certain Rest of World goods.

In May 2024, we consulted on the following proposed amendments. It is proposed that they will be included in the same statutory instrument. Respondents are invited to comment on the above proposals, as well as those listed below.

Proposed amendments to align fees for documentary checks with reduced checking rates.

Furthermore, the proposed changes reinsert the fees for checks of *Triticum L.*, *Secale L.* and *x Triticosecale*, from certain third countries, following their erroneous removal via the Plant Health (Fees) (England) and Official Controls (Frequency of Checks) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 and the Plant Health etc. (Miscellaneous Fees) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2024.

Any comments on the above proposed changes should be sent to planthealth@defra.gov.uk and plant.health@gov.wales by **23:59pm GMT on 21 March**



2025. The proposed changes are further detailed in **Annex A**, along with a list of questions to which we are particularly interested to receive responses on.

Comments provided in response to this letter, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs)

If you do not wish your response, including your name, contact details and any other personal information, to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your comments. Please note that if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for the information under freedom of information legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Yours faithfully

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