



PASSPORT



**WHY YOU
SHOULDN'T BRING
FOREIGN PLANTS
BACK FROM YOUR
TRAVELS**

TRAVELING ABROAD? THINK TWICE BEFORE BRINGING LOCAL PLANTS WITH YOU!

Many countries have strict controls on plants and plant products entering their borders to protect plant health and prevent the introduction of harmful pests, diseases and invasive species that could devastate local plant life, agriculture and ecosystems!

For example, you may be coming from Australia, carrying a cute little new plant! But unknowingly to you, it could harbour plant pests or diseases that can endanger plants in the EU.



Panic /



Bringing plants from one country to another can introduce **INVASIVE PESTS** and **DISEASES** but also **AGGRESSIVE SPECIES** that outcompete native flora, posing a significant threat to agriculture, biodiversity, and the environment. Invasive species can cause extensive damage to crops, forests, and native plants, leading to economic losses and biodiversity decline.

Xylella fastidiosa, originating in the Americas, is a plant pathogen that has caused significant damage in the EU, particularly in Italy, where it infected and killed millions of olive trees. The bacterium has spread across Europe, affecting various host plants and leading to economic losses and changes in ecosystems.



The invasive plant *Acacia Saligna* from Australia is causing biodiversity loss and ecosystem changes in Europe, particularly in Portugal and northwest Spain. It is outcompeting native Fabaceae shrubs, which are plants from the legume family known for their compound leaves and legume fruits.



Plants and plant products allowed into the EU must meet stringent plant health standards and be free from quarantine pests. This ensures the protection of EU plant health and biodiversity.

To that end,

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

is a mandatory document that accompanies plants entering the EU, providing assurance that they have been inspected and comply with EU regulations. It is prohibited to bring plants from non-EU countries into the EU without this certificate. Failure to comply can result in legal consequences!



Whereas, for plants to travel freely within the EU, they require a **EU PLANT PASSPORT**



Having the plant passport ensures that the plants meet the required plant health standards and are authorised for movement within the EU without additional restrictions.

A plant passport contains essential information for the trade of seeds, cuttings, plants, and trees between businesses in the EU.

Who gets a plant passport?

- Propagating materials: Any materials used for plant propagation, such as seeds, cuttings, bulbs, and rootstocks.
- Potted plants, bedding plants, or tub plants sold for ornamental purposes or consumption, such as flowers and decorative plants.

BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELER!

Respect plant health regulations to preserve our natural heritage and avoid introducing invasive species.



By making informed choices and adopting responsible travel practices, we can contribute to the overall health and resilience of local plants and ecosystems.

CHECK OUT THE PLANT HEALTH 4 LIFE CAMPAIGN TO LEARN PROMOTES ABOUT THE VITAL LINK BETWEEN PLANT HEALTH AND OUR EVERYDAY LIVES.

ASK US

🌱 Got questions about plant science & breeding? We've got answers!
Join Plant ETP's campaign to feed your curiosity! 🌿

Ask your questions here:

tinyurl.com/bdzhepr9



Download the
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links!



LEARN MORE



[Plant health 4 life - European Food Safety Authority](#)

[Xylella fastidiosa - European Food Safety Authority](#)

[Acacia saligna - invasoras.pt](#)

[Trade in plants & plant products from non-EU countries](#)

[Plant health rules - European Commission](#)