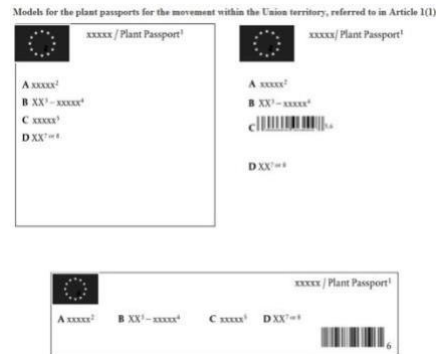


### Smarter rules for safer foods/Plant Health Regulation: Registered operator category

BALI would like to advise members involved in any type of planting, producing, breeding, moving, storing, dispatching or processing plants or plant products are required to complete a form (2016/2031) in accordance with the new Plant Health Regulation.



Following a meeting with the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs ([Defra](#)) earlier this week (February 2020), BALI would like to advise members involved in any type of planting, producing, breeding, moving, storing, dispatching or processing plants or plant products are required to complete a form (2016/2031) in accordance with the new Plant Health Regulation. Registration with the relevant, competent authority (listed below) is entirely free, and ensures professional operators will be classed as a 'Registered operator'. BALI suggests most contractor members who undertake any element of planting works will fit within this category.

Registered operators are distinct from the 'Authorised operators' title, who are permitted by the competent authority to issue plant passports or to issue any other official phytosanitary attestation. Consultation with Defra suggests relatively few BALI contractor members will be required to become authorised operators and issue either plant passports or phytosanitary certificates; however, BALI are currently in consultation with Defra to identify which members this will apply to, and in the next few weeks will deliver an update with examples. This category is more likely to apply to suppliers of plants and planting material.

The application process is slightly different depending on member location. Whilst only one application needs to be completed per organisation, regardless of number of satellite offices or depots, the competent authority differs according to geographic location of member:

England & Wales: Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/849162/form-plant-passport-appreg.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/849162/form-plant-passport-appreg.pdf)

Scotland: Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA)

<https://www.sasa.gov.uk/plant-passporting-guidance>

Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs

(DAERA) <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/plant-passport-guidelines>

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