



# The EU: a common market for plants and plant products

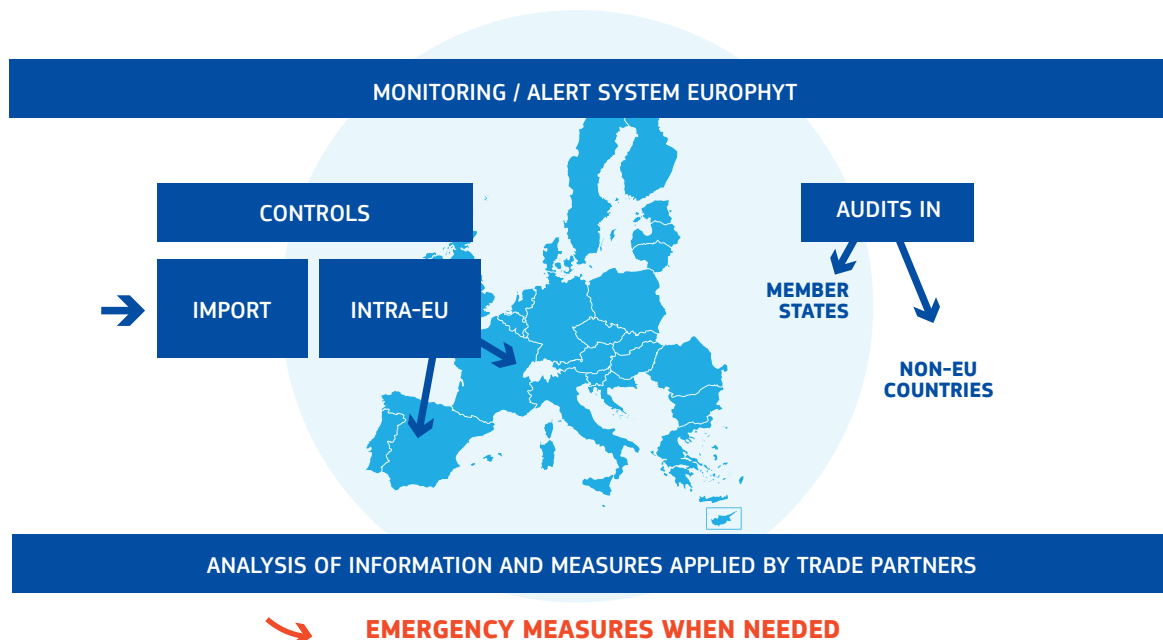
The EU is one of the largest markets in plants and plant products in the world. It offers a trade friendly, non-discriminatory system that ensures a high level of phytosanitary protection in the EU territory, whilst remaining both predictable and transparent in its application.

The phytosanitary requirements are in line with WTO and other international rules. Free circulation within the EU means that exporters to the EU are granted access to a vast market of over 500 million consumers encompassing 28 countries.

## THE EU AS YOUR TRADE PARTNER

- ◆ The EU has an advanced phytosanitary system which provides solid guarantees in line with international standards (WTO, International Plant Protection Convention –IPPC–)
- ◆ The unique set of phytosanitary provisions are binding for all Member States and actors in the phytosanitary chain
- ◆ The European Commission audits Member States (reports publicly available) to verify the functioning of the system
- ◆ Staff in competent authorities are trained so as to ensure the proper functioning of the system
- ◆ Monitoring of the phytosanitary conditions within EU territory
- ◆ Updating of EU legislation following scientific and technical developments and possible new threats
- ◆ Permanent consultation and cooperation with phytosanitary experts and scientific bodies (EFSA, IPPC, EPPO, Universities, National Research bodies, etc.)

## ENSURING SAFETY



# PRODUCTS COVERED BY EU LEGISLATION

Plants for planting

Some fruits,  
vegetables, cut flowers  
and seeds

Some plant  
products (eg. wood)

## EXPORTING TO THE EU

- ◆ All trade partners are eligible for exporting plants and plant products to the EU
- ◆ One single set of conditions for all trade partners
- ◆ National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) are responsible for the compliance with EU requirements
- ◆ Plants and plant products shall be free from pests at import controls (quarantine pests)
- ◆ List of quarantine pests, list of controlled commodities in the EU publicly available
- ◆ Capacity building provided (BTSF)
- ◆ Few prohibited items
- ◆ Possibility of derogations if justified



All plants for planting, some specified regulated fruits, vegetables, seeds and cut flowers require a phytosanitary certificate (directive 2000/29 Annex V) in line with the IPPC model



No import permits required

## IMPORT CONTROL AT EU BORDERS

Consignments shall be presented for phytosanitary controls before import in EU and found free from EU quarantine pests

Compliance with EU import requirements (*Directive 2000/29*)

Free circulation in all EU Member States if controls are favourable

### Useful information:

Trade in plants & plant products from non-EU countries: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant\\_health\\_biosecurity/non\\_eu\\_trade](http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/non_eu_trade)

Trade in plants and plant products within the EU: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant\\_health\\_biosecurity/trade\\_eu](http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/trade_eu)

EUROPHYT: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant\\_health\\_biosecurity/europhyt](http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/europhyt)

EU Plant Health legislation: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant\\_health\\_biosecurity/legislation](http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/legislation)

Emergency control measures by species: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant\\_health\\_biosecurity/legislation/emergency\\_measures](http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/legislation/emergency_measures)

Audits: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit\\_reports](http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit_reports)

Better Training for Safer Food <http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/food/index.html>

European Food Safety Agency -EFSA-Plant Health <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/planthealth>