

OVERVIEW FOR ALL LEVELS

This is about having an in-depth understanding and knowledge of how your role fits with and supports 'Protecting Plant Health – A Plant Biosecurity Strategy for Great Britain'.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/307355/pb14168-plant-health-strategy.pdf

You would recognise that plants and trees are an essential economic, environmental and social asset making a vital contribution to our food and timber supply, rural economy and provide important ecosystem services.

For all colleagues, it is about focusing your contribution on the activities which will help in protecting agriculture, forestry and the natural environment both nationally and internationally whilst recognising the need and importance of international trade in plants and plant products. You would understand that threats to plant biosecurity have increased with the globalisation of trade and travel and that predicted climate change effects may influence the impact of damaging pests not yet present in the UK but also ones that are present and have associated management practices. The level of your involvement and influence will range from local, regional, national to international and short term to long-term with increasing responsibility and competency level from associate, to registered to senior plant health professional.

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Assessors will be looking for evidence for the following areas in tree health and plant biosecurity:

Understand:

- impacts of pests and diseases on agriculture, forestry and horticulture throughout the entire supply chain and the impact on landscape, amenity and the wider environment
- principles of protecting plant health through risk based decision making and the appropriate use of international Phytosanitary legislation
- factors that can influence risk such as globalisation of trade and predicted climate change
- responsibility for reducing risk sits with those who benefit from the reduction of those risks (where appropriate)
- diversity of organisations affected by plant health
- impact of pests and diseases on health and safety particularly in relation to trees e.g. Oak Processionary Moth or Tree /limb falls due to cankers etc.
- principles, implementation and impact of control strategies and measures

The level of knowledge and evidence will increase with the competency level from associate, to registered to senior plant health professional.

Competency	Assessors will be looking for evidence that you know / do / take an active part in:			Plant Biosecurity Strategy for GB report ref
	Associate	Registered	Senior	
Competency Cluster 1. Plant Health Regulations				
1. Understand how Plant Health Services operate in the UK and reporting mechanisms for plant health concerns	The government departments responsible for Plant Health and Forestry in the UK Be able to define “biosecurity”	The flow of information and decisions about plant health in your organisation The economic significance, diversity of trade and natural environment that could be affected by biosecurity Understand good biosecurity practice	Initiate the flow of information and decision making within your organisation and communicate with counterparts in other UK organisations.	Page 6
2. Understand the significance of: a) International Plant Health Standards b) International Plant Protection Convention c) EU Plant Health regime d) Plant Health and Plant Health (Forestry) Orders and associated powers. d) Procedures for import of	What are they and how do other third countries’ regulations differ from UK/EU regulations. Understanding of international phytosanitary agreements and requirements Procedures for working in quarantine licensed facilities	The detail for a specific area and shared knowledge of differing practices Appreciation of global spread of pests and pathogens and opportunities for improved biosecurity Working knowledge of prohibited, controlled and uncontrolled classifications. Use of phytosanitary certificates and plant passports	Actively contribute to national and international initiatives to improve practices Dissemination of good practice internationally	p 15 p 16

Licensed plant pests, pathogens, soil and plants		Containment and mitigation strategies for working with quarantine licensed organisms		
3. Understand Plant Biosecurity Continuum	<p>Understanding pre-border, border and inland surveillance and inspection regimes</p> <p>Recognise different surveillance, inspection and identification approaches</p>	<p>Appreciation of border activity and opportunities for improved biosecurity</p> <p>Understand different technologies and their benefits/limitations for surveillance, inspection and identification</p>	Implementation of new detection methodologies and control strategies and enhanced intelligence with stakeholders	p 18
Competency Cluster 2 Roles and responsibilities in reporting plant health concerns				
4. Demonstrate communication of risks and plant health policy	Explaining your job to others and its role in UK biosecurity	Making use of existing networks of communication and/or developing new ones	Leading, negotiating and supporting regional, national and international plant health policy and campaigns to enhance Plant Biosecurity	p 13/14
<p>5. Understand the National Legal Plant Health framework- roles and responsibilities</p> <p>a) <i>within</i> your organisation</p> <p>b) <i>outside</i> your organisation with stakeholders and officials</p> <p>c) Plant Health and Plant</p>	<p>Who is responsible for surveillance, monitoring, containment/eradication and reporting pests and diseases</p> <p>Statutory action procedures including the application of Statutory Plant Health Notices</p> <p>Understanding the range</p>	<p>Understanding the need to escalate potential plant health concerns.</p> <p>Monitor data and reports from those responsible. Use the Pest Risk Register and other reference points for informing decisions</p> <p>Work with sectors to develop good practice e.g. certification</p>	<p>Analysis of data and recommendations for action at an organisational level</p> <p>Disseminating good practice; understanding and overcoming barriers to certification or similar schemes amongst stakeholders</p>	p 20

Health (Forestry) Orders and associated powers.	of stakeholders and partners across various sectors and the impacts on their work	schemes with industry		
Competency Cluster 3				
Risk based decision making				
6. Understand risk based decision making and identify which pests and pathogens are <i>high risk within your area</i> of work	Identify which pests and pathogens are high risk and why. Aware of sources of information about them	Understand risk based decision making and knowledge of the principles of risk assessment and the UK Risk Register. The process for containment/eradication and EU notification of Listed and high risk pests and pathogens. Understand the implications on international trade of submitting quarantine pest/pathogen notifications	Monitor, manage and review your team's performance in dealing with high risk pests and pathogens and contribute to strategy for their control. Influence policy following identification of new plant health risks. Communicate risks appropriately and follow up action where needed	Page 11 (risk register)
7. Understand the <i>range</i> of notifiable pests and pathogens that threaten the UK	The breadth of species detrimental to plant health, how to identify them and know what plants/trees they are commonly associated with Understand the importance and principles of sampling strategies	To be aware of new and emerging problems within and threatening the UK To be able to use the Risk Register for 'horizon scanning' for new and emerging problems relevant to your business Design and develop sampling strategies on a local basis and review effectiveness	Inform your team of the results of horizon scanning and changes to the Risk Register ensuring they are upskilled as required. Design, develop and critically assess sampling strategies and effectiveness on a regional and national	Page 11 (risk register)

			basis	
8. Understand how trade in commodities provides pathways of introduction that impact on biosecurity and measures taken to reduce risk and prevent introduction	The provenance of plants, wood, wood products and bark and other materials capable of harbouring pests and pathogens Introduction pathways	How pests and pathogens spread Have the principles of how to manage a programme of quarantine pest and disease surveillance and subsequent action	Measure and strategies to prevent introduction and spread	p 12 (PRAs)
Competency Cluster 4				
Contingency planning and outbreak management				
9. Demonstrate knowledge of good biosecurity practice within work area	Carry out biosecurity practices to prevent spread of plant pests and diseases within work area	Use and improve biosecurity protocols to deal with pest and disease management within your organisation.	Develop biosecurity protocols to deal with pest and disease management on a national basis Awareness and adaption of international protocols	P21
10. Contingency planning and outbreak management	Knowledge of existing pest specific contingency plans for your work area	Preparedness for outbreak management Have processes for and undertake resilience testing of contingency plans	Testing new ways to enact speedier, effective methods of outbreak control Knowledge and adoption of industry best practice as applicable	p 20
11. Understand the impact of control strategies and measures on:	Understand the impact of an outbreak and the relevant management	Understand the impact of an outbreak and management practices at a regional level	Understand the impact of an outbreak and management practices at a national and	P21

a) economic losses	practices at a local level		international level	
b) social and environmental impact				
c) health and safety				