

Plant Pass Partner FAQ

1. What is Plant Pass?

Plant Pass is a voluntary certification scheme for New Zealand plant producers that promotes and supports good biosecurity practice in the nursery and its supply chain.

Nurseries are havens for pest and disease establishment. They are usually home to many plant species in a vulnerable, juvenile state growing in moist, warm conditions: an ideal pest incubator. Spread of these threats could devastate our domestic or export trade.

Plant Pass is a standards-based scheme that gives plant producers the tools and knowledge and to take a proactive biosecurity approach to protecting their plants from pest and pathogen threats. Taking this approach in the nursery is not only good for business but helps protect Aotearoa's economy, unique natural environment and way of life.

2. What is a Plant Pass Partner?

Plant Pass Partners play a vital role in supporting Plant Pass and good biosecurity practice. Anyone involved in plant procurement or influencing plant purchases such as plant buyers, local councils, government agencies, sector advocates, biosecurity experts and non-profit organisations can become a Plant Pass Partner.

There is no cost to becoming a Plant Pass Partner. The time commitment is very little – we meet online to discuss opportunities about four times a year and also ask that you create a simple action plan to showcase your activities.

3. What is the role of a Plant Pass Partner?

Partners commit to use their influence to encourage support for Plant Pass registered nurseries and to develop action plans outlining their commitments to biosecurity. Partners receive support and guidance to develop their own tailored action plan.

4. What are the benefits of becoming a Plant Pass Partner?

Through supporting good biosecurity, Partners play a critical role in protecting New Zealand's unique environment and contributing to a more secure and sustainable plant industry.

Becoming a Plant Pass Partner may support your strategic objectives by demonstrating support for good biosecurity and enhancing your reputation with stakeholders. Organisations that become Partners are given collateral to share with stakeholders and customers.



5. What is required in the Plant Pass Partner Action Plan?

The action plan outlines specific commitments and steps the Partner will take to support and incentivise good biosecurity practices in nursery production. Commitments can range from raising awareness of Plant Pass through to only buying plants from Plant Pass certified nurseries. Examples of action plans are available on www.plantpass.org.nz/plantpasspartners.

6. How are Plant Pass Partners monitored and reported on?

Plant Pass Partners are expected to stick to the principles and commitments outlined in their own Action Plan. However there is no external monitoring. Partners are encouraged to attend a quarterly online meeting with other Partners to discuss progress, issues and feedback. We don't expect to lose Plant Pass Partners but if you want to withdraw at any time that's fine. We will invite partners to renew their commitment on an annual basis.

7. Is there a fee to become a Plant Pass Partner?

There is no fee. We'll just get your organisation to sign the Plant Pass Partner certificate.

8. How do I become a Plant Pass Partner?

Interested parties can contact Shelley Ashton, Plant Pass Champion at Biosecurity New Zealand to talk further either by email shelley.ashton@mpi.govt.nz or on 021 456 603. She would love to hear from you.

