

PLANT PASS SCHEME DOC #01

V1.1 - 10 June 2021

Scheme Overview



PLANT PASS SCHEME

Scheme Overview

10 June 2021

Plant Pass Scheme Scheme Manager – NZPPI PO Box 3443, Wellington, 6140 P 04 918 3511, E office@nzppi.co.nz

Updates

The Plant Pass Scheme is a science-based framework to help producers identify, control, manage and avoid biosecurity risk. The Scheme and standards are based on work undertaken early in 2018 following experience early in the myrtle rust response that underscored the crucial role that plant producers play in early detection of pests, their containment and slowing their spread following a pest incursion. Subsequent discussions identified the opportunity to develop a systematic approach to plant production industry biosecurity risk management.

Revisions will be ongoing as the Scheme's experience and/or new science inform the need for change. Revisions published on the Scheme's website [plantpass.org.nz] and participants advised of the changes and new documents, so they can ensure that they are referring to the most recent documents.

Those wishing to provide recommendations for change should send these in writing to The Scheme Manager or by email to office@nzppi.co.nz.

Acknowledgements

Plant Pass acknowledges and is appreciative of the support of many industry members and stakeholders who assisted in the development of the Scheme; funding from the Ministry for Primary Industry, Department of Conservation, Auckland Council and forestry and horticultural industry bodies, the guidance of project Steering and Working Groups, feedback and advice from industry members and stakeholders, and Kiwifruit Vine Health's generously allowing the Scheme to extract from and draw heavily upon their work and the Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme.

Disclaimer

While the Scheme's objective is to allow certification of plant producers and confidence that plants they produce have been grown under conditions of high biosecurity risk and hazard management, there remains the possibility a proportion of plants may contain biosecurity pests. Plant Pass and its partners accept no liability for claims regarding the presence of pests in any plants produced by registered and/or certified producers. While the objective of the Scheme's standards and guidance is to minimise the potential risk pest, no party can guarantee that adherence to these standards and guidance will reduce such risk to zero.

Revisions

V1.0 – February 2020

V1.1 – 10 June 2021

- Rebranding as Plant Pass
- Additional material on Plant Pass origins, ownership, governance and producer recognition added to Section 1.
- Minor typos corrected

Contents

1.	Introduction	6
2.	Mission	7
3.	Principles	8
4.	Plant Pass and Nursery Biosecurity Outcomes	9
5.	Scope	10
5.1.	Plant Producers	10
5.2.	Target Organisms	10
5.3.	Design Principles	11
5.3.1	1. Hazard assessment methodology	11
6.	How the Scheme works	12
6.1.	Framework	12
6.2.	Scheme Flow Diagram	13
6.3.	Standards and Guidance	14
6.4.	Nursery Manual	14
6.5.	Records	15
6.6.	Producer Participation	16
6.6.1	1. Registration	17
6.6.2	2. Certification	17
6.6.3	3. Monitoring and diagnostic testing	17
6.7.	Registration and Certification Process	18
6.8.	Recognising "equivalence"	19
6.9.	Verification	19
6.10	Documents and Marketing Claims	19
6.11	. Compliance	19
6.12	Promoting the Scheme and participating producers	20
6.13	Revisions	20
7.	Glossary	21

Scheme Overview

an introduction to and overview of how the scheme works

Scheme Overview

1. Introduction

Plant producers operate in an environment where they are exposed to significant and continual pest¹ threats - not only from established pest species but also from new incursions. A 2015 publication² addressing New Zealand pest management, concluded that "New Zealand is under increasing pressure from terrestrial and aquatic pests, weeds and diseases that threaten the country's ecosystems and economy. Ongoing improvement in existing pest management methodologies and novel approaches are required." It continued: "Surveillance and pest monitoring are needed to increase the chances of early interception of invasive species or to confirm their eradication."

New Zealand's experienced pest incursions in increasing numbers over the last 50 years as international trade and travel have grown. *Phytophthora cinnamomi; Pythium* and *Fusarium* species are ubiquitous, and New Zealand plant producers manage these, and other endemic pests, daily. Plant producers work hard to protect their nurseries committing a good deal of resource to the process - time, effort and money.

Offshore threats continue to grow, and in the last decade, incursions have occurred in other countries that have had devastating consequences over large areas. Significant exotic pests currently include *Xylella fastidiosa, Ceratocystis fimbriata, Cryphonectria parasitica* (Chestnut blight), *Phytopthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death) and *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (Citrus greening). These and others present a critical risk to plant producers, the environment, the horticultural industry and the economy.

Plant producers are at the frontline in the battle to improve pest management strategies. Nurseries present a smorgasbord for pests; nurseries have thousands of plants, in many cases over a wide range of species, and in a juvenile state when they're often most vulnerable. Nursery growing conditions are ideal pest incubators! These factors provide both opportunity and threat - experience early in the 2017 myrtle rust response underscored the crucial role that plant producers play in early detection and slowing the spread following a pest incursion. It also underscored the threat that a pest incursion response poses to plant movements and to individual producers who have a pest detected on their nursery; and the adverse impact of nursery closure and/or disruption that movement controls can have on the affected producer, their families and staff, local communities and other nearby nurseries.

Additionally, as plant producers ship plants to customers or planting sites, biosecurity hazards are readily spread. Whether customers or sites are nearby or further afield, the nursery stock distribution pathway has the potential for pests to be rapidly spread throughout New Zealand – and to customers or into the environment.

These hazards can spread to:



Food and Viticulture
Orchards,
greenhouses,
vegetable crops
and vineyards



Forestry Production
Forests and nearby
vegetation



The Natural Environment Conservation, revegetation and restoration programmes



The Built Environment Landscape, amenity, infrastructure, retail and home garden markets



Other Plant Producers Plant supply to other nurseries for further growing-on

¹ Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent that adversely impacts plants in commercial production, or if spread with nursery stock, adversely impacts the built or natural environments.

² Goldson, SL. et al 2015. New Zealand pest management: current and future challenges - Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand, 2015, 45 (1), pp. 31 - 58

The **Plant Pass Scheme** is a systematic approach to nursery production and plant producer industry biosecurity risk management. It's a comprehensive science-based framework to help producers identify, control, manage or avoid biosecurity hazards in their nursery and production processes. It will protect the producer, their customers, the environment and the New Zealand economy from the inadvertent introduction and dispersal of a pest. It builds industry and producer resilience, trust and social licence.

Plant Producers who achieve Certification to the Core Standard and any applicable Specific Modules demonstrate their production is undertaken under conditions of strong biosecurity risk and hazard management. In doing so, they provide assurance that their plants have been raised in conditions that minimise the introduction and spread of pests.

Building Plant Pass

Work on the Plant Production Biosecurity Scheme (PPBS) began in late in 2017 with support, contributions and funding from a wide range of stakeholders - NZPPI, Biosecurity New Zealand, DOC, regional councils and industry bodies in the forestry, wine grapes and horticulture sectors. Through 2018 to 2020 a development teams worked with plant producers and other stakeholders to design, pilot and refine the Plant Pass standards, guidance and systems.

As the PPBS was implemented in 2021, a new overarching logo and strapline was agreed. Plant Pass – safer plants for New Zealand. It's and an aspirational and positive brand name that helps convey the commitment, effort and achievement of all who are parties to Plant Pass Scheme and the Plant Buyers' Accord.

Scheme ownership, governance and delivery

Plant Pass is implemented under a GIA (Government Industry Agreement for Biosecurity Readiness and Response)
Operational Agreement (OA). Members of GIA who sign the OA are the owners of the Scheme and the governance of
the of the Scheme rests with these entities. At the date of implementation (July 2021) OA signatories include
Biosecurity New Zealand, New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated, the Forest Owners Association, Kiwifruit Vine
Health, New Zealand Avocado, New Zealand Winegrowers and Citrus New Zealand.

Plant Pass will be managed and delivered by NZPPI under a scheme management contract.

Supporting participating producers

The Plant Buyers' Accord is key component of Plant Pass. Signatories commit to using their influence to encourage plant producers to register and achieve certification to the scheme. Potential Accord signatories include plant buyers such as retailers, those who influence and specify plant purchases such as government agencies and sector advocates, and agencies that own nurseries.

2. Mission

Mission

To support a professional approach to biosecurity across the plant production industry, which minimises biosecurity risk, builds industry and producer resilience, trust and social licence, and harnesses the critical skills and observations that exist in the industry to protect and grow New Zealand.

The Scheme will assist plant producers and their customers to:

- Build trust with stakeholders and customers, and social licence with the public.
- Lift biosecurity professionalism and standards.
- Increase likelihood of early detection pest organisms.
- Reduce the likelihood of the domestic spread of pest organisms.
- Preserve response options in the event of future pest incursions.
- Enable rapid recovery following a biosecurity event.

Participants in the Scheme will implement programmes that:

- Help protect plant producers, their customers and the environment from pests.
- Facilitate best management practices to reduce pest risk in the production and distribution of nursery stock.
- Facilitate traceability through nursery production and distribution networks.
- Reduce business risk and uncertainty by providing a robust framework on which business decisions can be based.
- Enhance their ability to produce and move plants around New Zealand efficiently within the regulatory framework and industry standards.

3. Principles

The principles below guide development, participation and decision-making through the Plant Pass Scheme.

- 1. All plant producers have a role to play in biosecurity.
- 2. Plant producers are well-positioned to detect a new pest early, manage pests in their nursery, and prevent them being spread to their customers and the environment.
- 3. The Scheme is a risk-based biosecurity management framework informed by the best available science and information. It harnesses, encourages and promotes innovation in nursery practice.
- 4. It recognises that a proactive approach to identifying and managing biosecurity risks at the earliest intervention point prevents risk, protects producers and lessens impact.
- 5. The Scheme embraces a pragmatic approach, it must work and be workable, it must support and help productivity and add value for producers.
- 6. Recognition of the Scheme by regulators, plant buyers and the public builds trust and social licence, benefits producers and mitigates regulatory impact in an incursion.
- 7. Broad participation and a collaborative approach among producers, customers and industry and biosecurity stakeholders strengthens biosecurity outcomes.
- 8. The Scheme draws upon the critical skills, observations, experiences and shared learnings among producers, their customers and industry stakeholders.
- 9. Decision making is transparent, communications open and producer participation welcome.

4. Plant Pass and Nursery Biosecurity Outcomes

This diagram captures key relationships among Plant Pass, the engagement of producers and the interests of stakeholders. While GIA is not part of the Scheme, reference is made to GIA to demonstrate how the Scheme might align with or link to plant producer GIA participation.

Better Nursery Biosecurity Outcomes



Advancing Industry & Producer

- Resilience
- Trust
- Social Licence



Contributing to:

- Protecting economy & environment
- Biosecurity 2025's team of 5 million



Biosecurity Crisis Management

- Register of Plant Producers
- Industry and producer awareness
- · Traceability framework
- · Surveillance framework
- GIA preparedness
- GIA response plan



Producer Crisis Management

- Certification
- Production and nursery stock pathway hazard mitigation
 - Biosecurity best practice
 - Hygiene
 - Monitoring and diagnostics
 - Production step hazard management



Plant Pass Operating Model

- Plant Pass Scheme, Standards and Specific Modules
- Industry support framework facilitating guidance, tools, people, support, advice, diagnostics, training



Plant Pass and Producers Recognition

- Scheme and producer recognition by regulators & those who influence producers
- · Plant buyer recognition and procurement policies

5.1. Plant Producers

The Scheme's scope applies to all plant producers undertaking nursery production of plants within New Zealand. The Scheme defines a "plant producer" as "any person, business or entity engaged in producing plants, or, parts of plants for sale, their own use, or, for movement outside of the property".

This includes formal for-profit nurseries, part time, lifestyle and hobbyist growers, community nurseries and those staffed by volunteers, landscapers, retailers, food producers and others who grow some of their own plants and entities that hold plants for an extended period (for example, garden retailers, landscapers and plant brokers).

Home gardeners, plants swapped among garden club members, or sold at school and charitable events are not within the Scheme's scope. However, the Scheme will develop guidance for these groups so that they can contribute to national efforts to grow biosecurity.

Other entities in the plant production and nursery stock supply chain are also recognised as being exposed to and presenting biosecurity risk when plants are held and aggregated for periods of time. These entities are encompassed by the Scheme and include garden retailers, some landscapers, plant brokers and distribution depots. Guidance will be developed to help them undertake risk management, including stock inspections and monitoring.

The Scheme takes a systems-based approach to biosecurity risk management protocols for all plant species and all pests, and includes nursery inputs, plant production, and nursery outputs and their distribution and transportation.

The Scheme provides assurance that certified producers have high biosecurity risk management practices in place and that the plants they produce have been raised in conditions that ensure they are practically free of pests at the time of sale and/or distribution by the producer.

5.2. <u>Target Organisms</u>

A **pest** is defined as – Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent that adversely impacts plants in commercial production or the natural environment.

The **Core Standard** (refer Section 6.3 below) does not specifically identify pests of concern. It instead employs the concept of "Practical Freedom"

"A consignment, field, or place of production, without pests in numbers or quantities in excess of those that can be expected to result from, and be consistent with, good cultural and handling practices employed in the production and marketing of the commodity" (ISPM5)

to ascribe a high level of biosecurity confidence in the producer, their nursery and plants they produce.

In the future however, the Core Standard may identify target organisms as our understanding of biosecurity risks to the plant production industry evolves.

Specific Modules (refer Section 6.3) will very likely identify pests of concern and place additional requirements on producers who grow the plant species and/or supply the industry or ship plants through the pathway of interest.

5.3. Design Principles

The plant production industry is extremely diverse. It comprises a few thousand producers across a wide range of markets, customers and distribution networks, enterprise size, ownership and commercial models and plant species. Producer's awareness of and expertise in biosecurity hazard and risk management varies.

The Scheme's design acknowledges this diversity and can be used by all plant producers, from the smallest to largest nursery, by commercial and community nurseries irrespective of what they grow or who they supply. The **Core Standard** focuses on core biosecurity best practice encompassing management and staff responsibly, nursery hygiene, crop monitoring and traceability. It and Scheme guidance include examples of biosecurity hazards and management measures for nursery inputs, through the production cycle and in nursery dispatch and transportation.

Where necessary and desired, **Specific Modules** manage concerns about a specific pest, plant species, industry or distribution pathway that are additional to those in the Core Standard. These may be incorporated as a module within the Scheme, by reference to other biosecurity Schemes or through mutual recognition. Examples may include myrtle rust, kiwifruit nursery stock and plants supplied for restoration of offshore islands.

5.3.1. <u>Hazard assessment methodology</u>

The Scheme is aligned with **HACCP methodology** (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) to provide a framework to identify and manage risk within and through the nursery production process.

HACCP is a systematic and preventative approach to managing risk that is widely used in many industries, it scales with enterprise complexity and has been adopted as the standard risk management tool for food safety.

The key principles of the HACCP approach are to identify all potential hazards in a production system and identify intervention points where these hazards can be controlled, prevented or reduced. This preventative approach to hazard management is proven to be successful in many production industries and has been adapted to provide a framework for the Scheme.

Scheme elements scale readily to accommodate enterprise and nursery diversity and complexity - the measures that a small nursery need adopt will be fewer (or less complex) to manage the hazards they face or present.

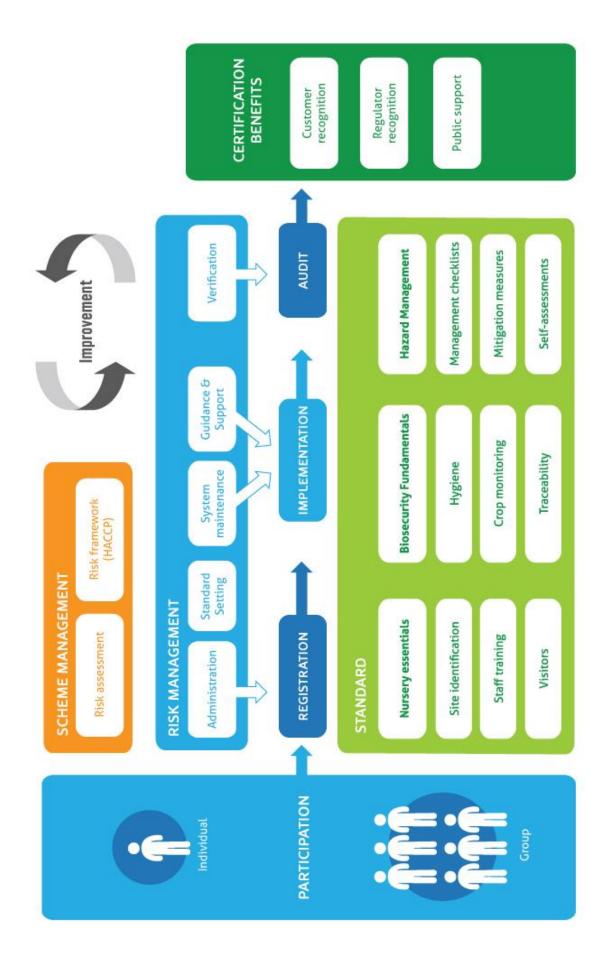
6. How the Scheme works

6.1. Framework



Governance and Leadership	People with the knowledge and authority to make decisions.
Policies and purpose	The basis for decision making to meet the long-term goals.
Roles and responsibilities	Specific tasks or duties.
Planning and control	Sets out the goals and steps to achieve the outcome.
Training	The skill and knowledge required.
Standards and guidance	Documents that provide the requirements, specifications, and instructions covering the practices and processes for certification.
Equivalence	A system that has been compared and is recognised as achieving the same or better outcomes.
Verification	Audits and inspections for obtaining and evaluating evidence and to determine the extent to which the standard have been met.
Recognition	Formal acknowledgement that required standards have been met.
Validation	Collecting evidence that the standard consistently achieves the outcomes.
Monitoring	Checking the quality or consistency of an outcome over time.

6.2. Scheme Flow Diagram



6.3. Standards and Guidance

The Scheme focuses on outcomes and provides tools that will assist producers to meet those outcomes including:

- A Core Standard that is applicable to a wide range of producers, nurseries, species and pests. It is organised
 to help a producer to identify biosecurity hazards that apply to each production step and identify and record
 others where applicable. It includes:
 - Nursery essentials basic requirements including location and contact details, staff and management responsibilities, training, signage and visitor management.
 - Biosecurity management fundamentals key requirements to ensure production areas remain free
 of pests and pathogens; hygiene, crop monitoring and traceability.
 - Hazard management through the production process hazards and mitigation guidance through transplant, growing and plant dispatch processes.
 - o Audit and record requirements.
- A **Core Standard Hazard Management Checklist** is provided to assist producers in identifying key risk management methods and records and to assist self-assessments and preparation for external audits.
- Plant Pass Scheme Guidance materials assist producers with Scheme entry and start-up and collate measures
 and steps that producers can implement to improve biosecurity risk management and meet the requirements
 of the Standard,
- To assist producers working with the Scheme a Nursery Manual template is provided. It helps producers
 record how they meet requirements of the Core Standard and any applicable Specific Modules.
- The Core Standard is supplemented, where necessary and desired, by **Specific Modules** for issues of concern to or about a specific pest, plant species, market or distribution pathway. These may be incorporated as a module within the Scheme, by reference to other biosecurity Schemes or through mutual recognition. The myrtle rust module (below) is one of these, and in time others may include, for example, plants supplied for restoration of offshore islands.
- A **Myrtle Rust Module** that pertains to plant producers who grow plants belonging to the plant family *Myrtaceae*. It supplements the Core Standard and describes specific biosecurity measures to manage the risk of a nursery becoming infected by or spreading myrtle rust.
- Other modules and schedules will be added as the need arises. For an up-to-date list of documents refer to the resources page at www.plantpass.org.nz.

Industry and producer support mechanisms – in addition to the Standard and associated materials the Scheme framework includes and/or facilitates guidance materials, tools, diagnostics and training engagement.

6.4. Nursery Manual

The Nursery Manual is a template that nurseries may complete to demonstrate how they meet the Scheme Core Standard. Where applicable, it will be supplemented by Manual components for Specific Modules. It is designed to make engagement with the Scheme as simple as possible; it is fully aligned with Core Standard and Specific Modules, includes prompts that guide the user to identify how relevant criteria are met, and provides a simple format to enter this information.

The use of a Nursery Manual is not mandatory, but it is essential that the producer undertakes and records an analysis of the biosecurity hazards they face, the measures they adopt to manage consequential risks, and builds a body of evidence to show how they manage biosecurity hazards and meet the requirement of certification to Core Standard or a Specific Module.

The Scheme also facilitates, where appropriate, the recognition of manuals developed for other quality management purposes.

To minimise duplication for nurseries, where a plant producer maintains documented operating procedures that describe how a criterion is met, a Nursery Manual can simply refer to the relevant section of that document (provided all relevant documents are made available and easy to follow during any external audit).

Once systems outlined in a Nursery Manual have been developed and implemented, and certification approved, they must be maintained; for example, the Nursery Manual must be amended when the producer introduces new procedures.

6.5. Records

Records demonstrating implementation of risk management processes, outcomes and any corrective action are essential. The Core Standard and Specific Modules list required records and Guidance materials provide templates for many of these.

6.6. Producer Participation

Registration

Producers register with the scheme owner.

Minimum registration details will be defined in the scheme rules but will be enough to identify and locate the nursery for communication, statistics or in a crisis situation.

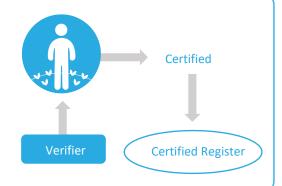
Registration details will be held in a scheme register (database) that is accessible to regulators & the scheme owner.



Individual Certification

An individual producer holds a certificate for their nursery(s).

The producer implements the standard and is externally audited.

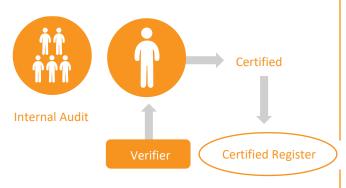


Group Certification

A group of producers operate under a single certificate. The group is managed by a lead organisation that holds the certificate and works with the individual producers to achieve the standard.

The lead organisation undertakes internal audits of all group members.

The lead organisation is externally audited & a small number of producers in the group are externally audited.



Accreditation/Equivalence

Using a benchmarking process, the scheme owner recognises schemes that meet Plant Pass's purpose & outcomes.

Producers that are certified to the recognised scheme can seek certification to the Plant Pass Scheme.



6.6.1. Registration

Participating plant producers first register with the Scheme to enable communication of biosecurity management guidance and contact in case of specific pest action, response or incursion.

Registration information includes:

- Producer and nursery(s) identity
- Nursery location(s), physical and mailing address(es)
- Key points of contact, names, phone numbers, email addresses

Registration provides a channel for biosecurity communications (pest information, guidance and alerts) resulting in a significant increase in biosecurity awareness and management, and early detection of an exotic pest incursion

Additionally, producers are asked to supply and maintain a list of plant genera under production so that biosecurity pest response or incursion actions can rapidly identify and target producers who may be at risk, save time and increase the likelihood of preventing pest spread through the nursery stock pathway.

The register enables biosecurity communication channels through to producers, facilitation of traceability, rapid and targeted comms in a crisis.

Registered producers are expected to implement a suite of basic biosecurity hazard management measures, and an "Entry Checklist: 20 steps to tick off for better biosecurity management" is provided for this purpose.

6.6.2. Certification

Following registration, producers work to achieve Certification to the Core Standard and/or a Specific Module. Once certified, producers shall maintain the integrity of the Scheme by ensuring its Nursery Manual and/or documented procedures are up-to-date and all inspections, testing and biosecurity measures have been conducted in accordance with the Core Standard and/or Specific Module.

Certification to a Specific Module is only available to producers who are certified to the Core Standard. The Specific Module outlines measures required in addition to the Core Standard.

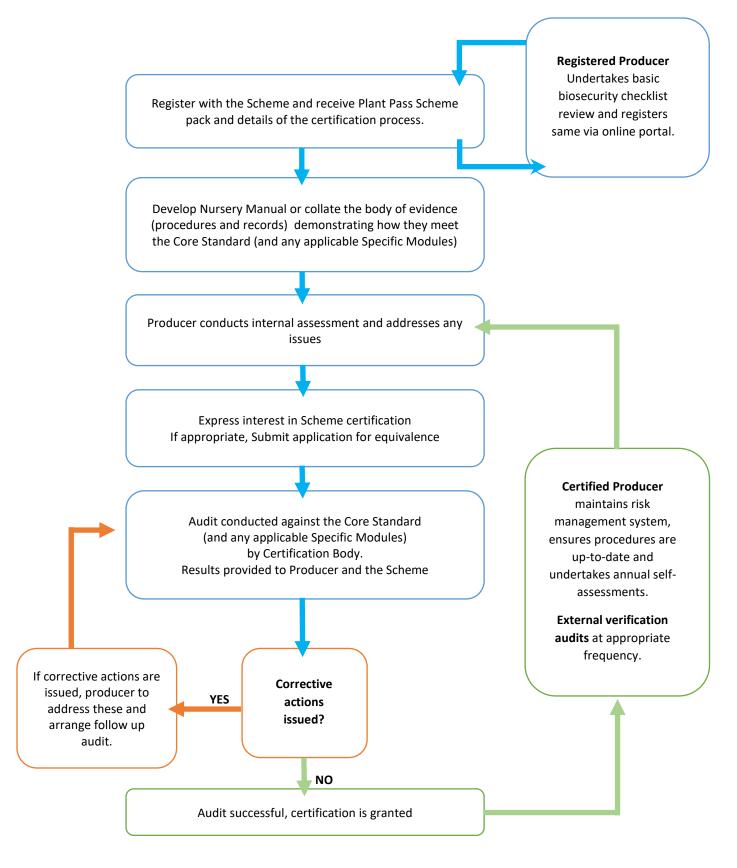
Group certification and accreditation/equivalence with other Schemes is also facilitated.

6.6.3. Monitoring and diagnostic testing

The Core Standard requires all producers to maintain their nursery as a place of practical freedom from pests. Practical freedom of pests is established through sound nursery and biosecurity management and verified with routine and systematic monitoring and surveillance. If pests are detected and are identified, treatment should follow. If pests or signs or symptoms of concern are unable to be identified by nursery staff or competent advisors, diagnostic testing is required. Records shall document monitoring, pest detections, treatment and any diagnostics undertaken.

If Specific Modules are applicable, producers must meet monitoring and diagnostic testing conditions prescribed by that module.

6.7. Registration and Certification Process



6.8. Recognising "equivalence"

A producer, or an accreditation Scheme provider can apply for the Scheme to recognise "equivalence". This is applicable where a producer is part of an alternative quality assurance Scheme, which achieves the same or greater level of biosecurity risk management as the Core Standard or Specific Module, and where that Scheme includes an independent audit requirement.

The Scheme will work with the applicant, and the Scheme provider where appropriate, to compare standards and how the Scheme operates to assess equivalence.

If the Scheme recognises "equivalence" of risk management practices and site requirements, it will specifically look at the 'inspection', 'testing', 'audit' and 'site requirements' of the alternate Scheme, and decide if any additional inspection, testing, audit and/or site requirements need to be met.

6.9. Verification

Registered producers are expected to review their biosecurity practice against the relevant checklist(s) on an annual basis. It's intended to prompt their thinking and increase the likelihood of their undertaking some biosecurity risk management.

Certified producers must undertake internal audits (at least one per year) to ensure that the procedures documented in their Nursery Manual are being followed, or that the collected body of evidence demonstrates how risk is managed and improving the likelihood of a successful external audit.

Scheme **certification** includes a requirement for an external audit by a Certification Body (unless otherwise agreed with the Scheme under an "equivalence" arrangement). Details relating to audit requirements are set out in within the Core Standard and modules.

The Scheme Owner will maintain integrity of the Scheme and the audit process to ensure audits deliver the outcomes expected and are consistent between nurseries.

Performance based auditing

Audit frequency will be on a performance basis. After achieving certification, audit frequency will be at fixed intervals for a period of not more than two years for the producer to establish performance history. Subject to the producer's audit performance history, audit frequency may then be increased for poor performers or reduced for high performers.

6.10. Documents and Marketing Claims

Producers certified to the Core Standard are to identify themselves as such though the inclusion of a statement on their nursery's documentation – product lists, packing slips, invoices, marketing materials etc. Acceptable wording includes "[Producer name] is certified to the Plant Scheme Core Standard". A logo will be made available for optional use on documentation.

Those certified to a Specific Module should follow the identification requirements specified in that module. These may include Scheme identification on plant labels or other means physically attached to individual plants, lots or batches.

6.11. Compliance

Compliance enables producers to provide assurance to their supply chain that they have met the conditions of the Core Standard and they may use this in their sales and promotional materials.

Serious non-compliance may result in a temporary suspension of a producer's ability to claim certification until the issues have been resolved.

6.12. Promoting the Scheme and participating producers

The Scheme Owner will promote the benefits of the Scheme and identify participating and certified producers through its routine communication and business to business channels.

6.13. Revisions

Revisions to the Scheme, including this Overview document, the Core Standard and Specific Modules, will be on-going and Scheme Owner appreciates feedback that can be used to improve the Scheme. Those wishing to provide recommendations for change should send these in writing to the Scheme Owner [in the interim office@nzppi.co.nz].

Revisions will be published on the Scheme's website and participants advised of the changes and new documents, so they can ensure that they are referring to the most recent documents.

7. Glossary

Biosecurity - Measures taken to prevent the introduction and/or to minimize the risk of establishment and spread of a specific pest

Nursery - A nursery is any property location where a plant producer undertakes the growing of plants. For clarity, if a plant producer operates on more than one site, any reference to the singular "nursery" in this Scheme, also applies to the plural "nurseries".

Nursery stock - Any plant for planting, propagation or ornamentation including greenhouse, containerized, field grown and tissue culture plants.

Pest - Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent that adversely impacts plants in commercial production or the natural environment.

Plant - Living plants and parts thereof, including seeds and germplasm.

Plant producer - A plant producer is defined as any person, business or entity engaged in producing plants or parts of plants for sale, their own use or for movement outside of the nursery, or nurseries where the producer operates over more than one site.

Practical freedom - A consignment, field, or place of production, without pests in numbers or quantities in excess of those that can be expected to result from, and be consistent with, good cultural and handling practices employed in the production and marketing of the commodity.

Plant Pass Scheme / Scheme

A framework to help plant producers improve biosecurity risk management.

Plant Production Biosecurity Scheme (PPBS)

The Scheme name used through the development phases of Plant Pass

Traceability - The ability to follow a nursery inputs, plants or a group of plants from one point in the supply chain to another.

The Core Standard provides additional definitions.