



Comparison of Plant Health Inspection Frequencies between EU and UK

Key: Inspection frequencies -

Same	Higher	Lower
------	--------	-------

Note: UK is currently considered as a Third Country when exporting to EU so all imports inspected at 100%

Updated 21/8/26

EU imports to UK are currently under an easement and not currently inspected unless shown otherwise

Category and description of plant, plant product or other object	Country of origin	UK Risk Category	UK Frequency	EU / NI Frequency
Bulbs, corms, rhizomes, tubers (other than tubers of potatoes), onions, shallots, garlic, leeks and other alliaceous vegetables, dormant, not in substrate				
All genera intended for planting, other than commercial flower production, and not intended for final users	Any third country	High	100	100
All genera intended for planting, and intended for commercial flower production, or for final users	Any third country	High	10	100
Cuttings, seedlings intended for planting, not specified or included anywhere else in this table				
All genera	Any third country	High	100	100
Plants for planting				
Woody plants(2) (other than specified or included elsewhere in this table), intended for planting and intended for final users(1). All genera	Any third country	High	100	100
Non-woody plants(3) (other than specified or included elsewhere in this table), intended for planting. All genera	Any third country	High	30	100
Indoor plants(4). All genera	Any third country	High	5	100
Other plants (other than specified or included elsewhere in this table), intended for planting. All genera	Any third country	High	100	100
Cut flowers				
Dendranthema (DC.) Des Moul. (Chrysanthemum L.)	Any EU Member State, or Switzerland	Medium A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, or Switzerland	Medium A	100	100
Dianthus	Any EU Member State, or Switzerland	Medium A	1	0
	Columbia	Medium A	5	3
	Ecuador	Medium A	10	10
	Kenya	Medium A	5	5
	Turkey	Medium A	10	25
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Columbia, Ecuador, Kenya, Switzerland, or Turkey	Medium A	100	100
Eryngium Tournier ex Linnaeus.	Any third country other than an EU Member State, European third country, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	10	100
Gypsophila	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Ecuador, Kenya, or Switzerland	Medium A	100	100
Lisianthus	Any third country other than an EU member state, European third country, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	10	100
Orchidaea	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	1	0
Rosa L.	Colombia	Medium A	5	3
	Ecuador	Medium A	3	1
	Ethiopia	Medium A	25	25
	Zambia		75	100
	Kenya	Medium A	25	25
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Kenya or Switzerland	Medium A	100	100
Solidago L.	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	1	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	10	100
Other genera not specified or included elsewhere in this table	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	5	100
Branches with foliage, parts of Conifers (other than bark or cut Christmas trees)				
All genera	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium A	5	100
Fruit, vegetables, leaves				
Actinidia (kiwi)	All countries	Low	5	10
Ananas comosus (Pineapple)	All countries	Low	0	Exempt
Apium graveolens (celery)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
Apium graveolens (celery)	All countries	Medium Risk A	5%	100
Asparagus officinalis	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	100	100
Capparis spinosa (capers)	All countries	Low	5	100
Capsicum (Sweet Peppers, Chilli Peppers)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland		3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	100	100
Carica papaya (papaya)	All countries	Low	5	10
Cichorium (chicory / endive)	All countries	Low	5	100
Citrus sp. (Leaves and Fruit)	Egypt		5	50
	Israel		5	25
	Mexico		5	25
	Morocco	Low	5	5

GB changed from 3% 15.06.2026

GB changed from 100% 15.06.2026

GB Removed Morocco & Israel (5%) 15.06.26

Category and description of plant, plant product or other object	Country of origin	UK Risk Category	UK Frequency	EU / NI Frequency
Citrus sp. (Leaves and fruit)	Peru	Low	5	10
	Turkey		5	5
	USA		5	75
	Any other third country		5	100
Cocos nucifera (Coconut)	All countries	Low	Exempt	Exempt
Coffea arabica	All countries	Low	5	100
Coffea canephora	All countries	Low	5	100
Cucumis sativa (Cucumber)	Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canary Islands, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Russia	Low	5	100
Cucurbitaceae sp.	The Americas***	Medium Risk A	5	100
Cydonia sp.	Canada, Mexico and USA	Medium Risk A	5	100
	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	3	0
Diospyros (Persimmon)	All countries	Low	5	100
Durio zibethinus (Durian)	All countries	Low	Exempt	Exempt
Eryngium sp.	All countries	Medium Risk A	5	100
Fennel Foeniculum	All countries	Low	5	100
Fortunella (Kumquat)	All countries	Low	5	100
Fragaria (Strawberries)	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	5	0
	Egypt	Medium Risk A	100	100
Globe artichoke Cynara	All countries	Low	5	100
Gossypium (Cotton)	All countries	Low	5	100
Hop cones	All countries	Low	5	100
Ipomoea batatas (Sweet potato)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Low	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	5	100
	Cameroon	Medium Risk B	100	100
Juniper berries	All countries	Low	5	100
Malus (Apples)	European third countries	Medium Risk A	5	10
	Argentina	Medium Risk A	75	75
	Chile	Medium Risk A	5	5
	New Zealand	Medium Risk A	15	15
	South Africa	Medium Risk A	10	15
	Any third country other than Argentina, Chile, an EU Member State, New Zealand, South Africa, Switzerland or European Third countries(5)	Medium Risk A	100	100
Mangifera (Mango)	Brazil	Low	0	75
	All other countries		0	100
Manihot esculenta (cassava)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	All countries	Medium Risk A	5	100
Momordica L.	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	50	100
Murraya leaves	All countries	Low	0	100
Musa (Banana)	All countries	Low	Exempt	Exempt
Ocimum L. (Basil)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	100	100
Olea europea (Olive)	All countries	Low	0	100
Other genera or species of fruit or vegetables not specified or included elsewhere in this table	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	5	100
Other leaves not specified or included elsewhere in this table	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	5	100
Passiflora (Passionfruit)	Colombia	Low	5	5
	Reunion	Low	5	10
	South Africa	Low	5	75
	Zimbabwe	Low	5	100
	Vietnam	Low	5	15
	All Countries	Low	5	100
Persea americana (Avocado)	Any third country other than Cameroon, an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	5	1
	Cameroon	Medium Risk A	100	100
Phoenix dactylifera (Dates)	Costa Rica	Low	5	50
	All countries		Exempt	Exempt
Poncirus (Citrus)	All countries	Low	5	100
Prunus (Stonefruit)	Chile	Medium Risk A	5	25
	South Africa		5	10
	Argentina		5	100
	Turkey		5	25
	European third countries		5	10
	All other Third Countries		5	100
	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	3	0
Psidium (Guava)	All countries	Low	5	100
Pyrus (Pears)	Argentina	Medium Risk A	15	25
	Chile		15	15
	China		25	50
	European third countries		5	10

GB decreased from 15% 15.06.2026

GB change from 25% 15.06.26

GB change from 50% 15.06.26

GB change from 10% 15.06.26

Category and description of plant, plant product or other object	Country of origin	UK Risk Category	UK Frequency	EU / NI Frequency
	South Africa		10	10
	Any third country other than Argentina, Chile, China, an EU Member State, European third countries, South Africa or Switzerland		100	100
Ribes (Currants)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Low	3	0
	Various Americas**	Medium Risk A	5	100
Root and tubercle vegetables, other than tubers of solanum tuberosum	All third countries except Switzerland	Medium Risk B	5	5
	Cameroon	Medium Risk B	5	100
Roots and tubercles of Curcuma longa (Turmeric)	Thailand	Medium Risk B	5	35
	Any other third country	Medium Risk B	5	100
Rubus (Raspberries,Blackberries)	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	5	5
Solanaceae Juss. (other than Solanum tuberosum L. Solanum lycopersicum , Solanum melongena L. and Capsicum sp.)	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	50	100
Solanum lycopersicum (Tomatoes)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Morocco		5	1
	Canary Islands		15	15
	Any third country other than the Canary Islands, an EU Member State, Morocco or Switzerland		100	100
Solanum melongena L. (Aubergine)	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Turkey		30	100
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein, Switzerland or Turkey		50	100
Syzgium (Myrtle)	All countries	Low	0	100
Vaccinium (Blueberries, cranberries etc)	European third countries	Medium Risk B	25	50
	Argentina	Medium Risk B	35	50
	Chile	Medium Risk B	10	15
	Peru	Medium Risk B	5	5
	Any third country other than Argentina, Chile, an EU Member State, Peru, Switzerland or European Third Countries	Medium Risk B	100	100
Vitis (Grapes)	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	5	1
Zea mays (Maize)	Any EU Member State or Switzerland	Medium Risk A	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State or Switzerland		100	100
Zingiber officinale (Ginger)	Any third country other than Cameroon, an EU Member State, Peru or Switzerland	Medium Risk B	5	100
	Cameroon and Peru	Medium Risk B	100	100
Seeds (for sowing), tissue cultures				
All genera, for trials or testing	Any third country	High	10	100
Brassicaceae (other than for trials or testing)	Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand or Uruguay	High	100	100
Capsicum spp. L. (other than for trials or testing)	Any third country	High	100	100
Poaceae (other than for trials or testing)	Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand or Uruguay	High	100	100
Solanum lycopersicum L. (other than for trials or testing)	Any third country	High	100	100
Solanum tuberosum L. (True seed) (other than for trials or testing)	Any third country	High	100	100
Trifolium spp. (other than for trials or testing)	Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand or Uruguay	High	100	100
Secale L.	Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa or the USA	High	100	100
Triticum L.	Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa or the USA	High	100	100
X Triticosecale Wittm. ex A. Camus	Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa or the USA	High	100	100
Other genera or species not specified or included elsewhere in this table	Any third country	High	5	100
Grain (other than seeds for sowing)				
Secale L.	Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa or the USA	High	100	100
Triticum L.	Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa or the USA	High	100	100
X Triticosecale Wittm. ex A. Camus	Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa or the USA	High	100	100
Tubers of potatoes				
Solanum tuberosum L. (seed potatoes)	Any third country	High	100	100
Solanum tuberosum L. (ware potatoes)	Portugal or Romania	High	50	100
	Egypt, Poland or Spain	High	100	100
	Any third country other than Egypt, Poland, Portugal, Romania or Spain	Medium	3	100
Cut Christmas trees (less than 3 metres in height)				
All genera	Any EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	High	3	0
	Any third country other than an EU Member State, Liechtenstein or Switzerland	High	5	100
Machinery or vehicles which have been operated for agricultural or forestry purposes				

GB Changed from 15.06.26

GB Changed from 50% 15.06.26

GB Changed from 15% 15.06.26

GB Changed from 5% 15.06.26

EU not stated in 15.06.2026

GB Reduced from 100% 15.06.26

Category and description of plant, plant product or other object	Country of origin	UK Risk Category	UK Frequency	EU / NI Frequency
Machinery or vehicles which have been operated for agricultural or forestry purposes	Any third country	High	5	5
Wood, wood products and isolated bark				
All genera	Any third country	High	100	100

	Europe	Rest of World
Current GB SPS Plant Health Inspection Levels	0% due to Easement 3% for certain EU cut flowers (to end)	Risk Based Approach 0 – 5% (but with risk based exceptions)
Proposed EU SPS Plant Health Inspection Levels	N/A	Precautionary Approach 100% (but with exceptions based on volume & risk)

	GB	EU
Plants, plant products and othe objects exempt from plant health inspections	Exemption depends on the commodity, country of origin, and whether it is fresh, processed, or planting material; verified using the GOV.UK Plant Health Information Service	Pineapples, Coconuts, Durians, Bananas, Dates

Note: Plants, plant products and other objects not in this list are currently exempt from inspection at GB border but would undergo 100% inspection in the EU.

Legislation Sources:

Jurisdiction	Regulation / Legislation	Scope	Key Requirements
Great Britain	Plant Health Regulations 2020 (as amended)	Imports and movement of plants, plant products and other objects	Establishes GB plant health controls, import requirements, inspections, and enforcement powers.
Great Britain	UK Plant Health Risk Categorisation System	Imported plants, plant products and other objects	Categorises commodities as High Risk, Medium Risk A, Medium Risk B, or Low Risk, determining inspection and certification requirements.
Great Britain	Border Target Operating Model (BTOM)	Imported plants, plant products and other objects	Defines documentary, identity, and physical checks for regulated products entering GB.
Great Britain	Official Controls Regulation (retained EU law)	Import inspections and enforcement	Provides framework for official controls performed by APHA, SASA, and DAERA.
European Union	Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 (Plant Health Law)	All plant health measures across the EU	Core EU legislation governing pest prevention, import controls, phytosanitary certification, and emergency measures.
European Union	Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (Official Controls Regulation)	Import inspections and enforcement	Establishes risk-based official controls and border inspections for imported consignments.
European Union	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2389	Imports and movement of plants, plant products and other objects	Sets minimum rates for identity checks and physical checks at EU border control posts.