



Date: 17 July 2024

Dear IPPC contact point,

Temporary easement of import requirements for ornamental plants of *Capsicum* spp. for final users

In November 2023 Great Britain introduced new import requirements, which required that plants for planting of *Capsicum* sp. needed to meet specific requirements in relation to Pepper chat fruit viroid (PCFVd). One of the requirements was that seed used to produce imported *Capsicum* plants needs to meet the same seed testing requirements as direct imports of seed.

Following the review by the UK NPPO we would like to introduce an easement in these requirements for finished plants destined for final consumers. Therefore, in case of plants for which there is evidence from their packaging or their development or by other means that they are ornamental plants intended for direct sale to final consumers not involved in professional plant production, the plants must be accompanied by an official statement that they comply with point (b), but do not need to state the compliance with point (a).

Therefore, to comply with the requirements under point 33A of Annex 7, part A of assimilated law [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2072](#) these ornamental *Capsicum* plants can be accompanied by an official statement that:

The plants are from evidence from their packaging or their development or by other means ornamental plants intended for direct sale to final consumers not involved in professional plant production,

and

(b) an official statement that:

(i) the plants originate in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in accordance with the measures specified in ISPM4 as an area that is free from Pepper chat fruit viroid,

or

(ii) the plants have been produced in a site of production where, since the beginning of the last cycle of vegetation, no symptoms of disease caused by

Pepper chat fruit viroid have been observed and where the following actions have been taken:

(aa) staff and items such as tools, machinery, vehicles, vessels and packaging material from other sites producing solanaceous plants and other host plants of Pepper chat fruit viroid have been prevented from coming into contact with the site, or

(bb) other appropriate hygiene measures have been taken to prevent infection by staff working, or items used, at other sites producing solanaceous plants and other host plants of Pepper chat fruit viroid.

Please note that this easement will be in place until **17 February 2025**.

Please let know if there are any questions or concerns regarding this easement.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Spence', written in a cursive style.

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