

This policy has been written for the directors, senior management, staff and customers of Rochfords. It is for the benefit of our business and our customers. It is endorsed by the directors and senior managers who will ensure that all company operations comply with the policy and its ethos. Staff will review and sign the policy as part of their induction training.

This policy acts as a framework around which we operate. The policy sits with other company policies, procedures and our certification to ensure, as far as is reasonably possible, we work to best practice with regards Plant Health and Biosecurity.

There are four main principles of plant health and biosecurity at Rochfords.

### ***1. Proactive Crop Management***

Rochfords apply the following to all crop situations; a start clean, stay clean ethos, integrated crop management (ICM) growing techniques including the use of integrated pest management (IPM), crop monitoring, hygiene rules and staff training.

Rochfords staff attend industry events, training days and seminars on plant health when they are available. We employ experienced external consultants for training, advice and crop walks throughout the season.

Rochfords have been a member of the British Ornamental Plant Production (BOPP) certification scheme since 2004. Plant health and biosecurity form a core part of the BOPP Code of Practice. In 2020 BOPP was re-branded Ornamental Horticulture Assurance Scheme (OHAS)

### ***2. Traceability***

An accurate traceability system is central to our work. From ordering to despatch all plants are traceable. All our customers are recorded and our sales to them. All inputs to crops are recorded. The launch of the Rochfords app on the Drive In has further enhanced the accuracy of our traceability data. We maintain an active relationship with the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). Where necessary plants may be quarantined. Responsible persons are as follows: Plant Health officer is Allison Terrell (APHA), plant passporting lead Production Manager - Guy Massey, assisted by; Nursery Manager – Ben Foskett, Assistant Managers Paul Arbon, Dan Munford, Team Leaders Kerry Austen, Vyngintas Samualis, Stock Records Administrator - Asoka Dissanayake.

### ***3. Approved Suppliers***

Rochfords use a wide range of plant suppliers. Plant suppliers are assessed to minimise the risk of plant pathogens arriving in the country. Risk evaluation is based on quality of product, the nursery, and their ethos with regard to Plant Health. We visit nurseries and trade shows to establish and maintain long term relationships with our suppliers.

Rochfords will not knowingly source any plants which endanger biosecurity.

### ***4. Industry Participation & Cooperation***

Rochfords staff are actively involved in groups and associations that work to inform the industry and government with regards to Plant Health and Biosecurity, such as Horticultural Trades Association (HTA), OHAS and APHA. We comply with government regulations and are constantly

reviewing industry information, and the press for updates on plant health status. Rochfords have been involved in the development of an industry wide plant health management standard, Plant Healthy

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#### How will Rochfords achieve its Plant Health Policy?

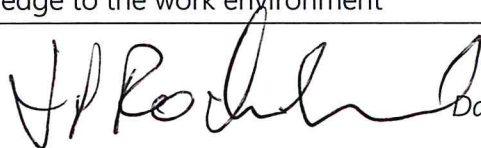
- All Senior Managers share responsibility for plant health & biosecurity at Rochfords
- Establishment of a plant health induction for both staff and contractors
- Knowledge. Keep up to date by involvement with industry bodies / press / meetings
- Staff training
- Plant health and biosecurity discussed weekly by Senior Management
- Participating in development of the OHAS
- Comply with all relevant legislation in relation to plant health and biosecurity
- Annual review of this policy by senior management

#### What can you do, as staff, to implement the policy?

Complete your job to the best of your ability. Work to ensure, as far as possible, within the scope of your role that you;

- Attend training courses when asked
  - Report pest and disease and quality issues on; goods coming in, nurseries visited, & on our nursery sites
  - Be vigilant when unloading lorries. Report what you find
  - Keep the work areas, tools etc clean and tidy. Report to your manager any stock quality issues
  - Maintain accurate and timely records of plant movements, plant sales, maintenance, waste
  - Keep up to date with developments in pest and disease prevention, apply your knowledge to the work environment
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Signed:



Date:

27/10/22

Paul Rochford

Managing Director

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*I have read and understand the above policy. I understand the role I have in helping Rochfords fulfil its Biosecurity responsibilities.*

Signed:

Printed name

Position:

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