



## **COUNTRY MARKET: BIOSECURITY POLICY**

As importers of plant stock, Country Market recognise our responsibility to protect the environment from known and future threats from pests and diseases. Our policy is designed to be flexible, easy to revise when circumstances change and will be reviewed annually. The policy is designed to be inclusive of our customers and suppliers.

Country Market will:

- comply with all UK and EU-relevant environmental legislation for the protection of the UK environment.
- work with government bodies, authorities, organisations, suppliers and industry partners to communicate, educate and inform our customers of known risks.
- monitor partners where trading represents a potential threat to biosecurity and suspend our trading with them or stop buying a genus, species or variety within a 10-mile (16km) radius of the reported threat until it is verified or dismissed by a regulatory body.
- whenever it is commercially viable, to propagate from Country Market stock plants and to grow such plants to maturity on site.
- trade with UK growers where possible, with growers who can prove provenance of their crops and who comply with the Country Market procurement policy and supplier accreditation documentation based on a Red, Amber and Green risk-rating system.
- hold stock movement records for all material purchased for growing on or resale.
- as far as practicable, hold purchased stock in defined areas for 12 months from point of receipt until they are aggregated with other batches of stock.
- maintain our formal CPD training of staff in pest and disease identification and/or employ external resources if necessary; regularly crop walk, recording inspections and controls taken (both chemical and biological); and use appropriate control systems on receipt of goods.
- work with suppliers who have their own biosecurity policies or who adopt our policies.

8<sup>th</sup> March 2019