

Glossary

Introduction

Use this *Glossary* to find the meaning of specialized words, abbreviations, acronyms, and terms used in export certification. To locate where in the manual a given definition, term, or abbreviation is mentioned, use the [Index](#).

Some definitions have references such as CEPM, FAO, ICPM, IPPC, and ISPM. These definitions are taken directly from the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms, which was developed to provide a harmonized internationally agreed vocabulary associated with the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM). These definitions are published in ISPM Pub. N° 5 dated April, 2002.

Definitions, Terms, and Abbreviations

Accreditation—official recognition of proficiency resulting in the approval and authority to perform specific tasks or provide specific services in full or partial support of fulfilling official obligations [NAPPO, 1999]. See also *Special Procedures*, [Accreditation Programs](#) on page 3-1-1.

Accountability system—system established to maintain the credibility of PPQ's entire phytosanitary Export Certification Program, to deter forgeries and control public misuse of the export certificates. See also *Procedures, Export Certificates*, [Accountability](#) on page 2-5-2.

ACO—See [Authorized Certification Official \(ACO\)](#).

AD—See [Additional Declaration \(AD\)](#).

Additional Declaration (AD)—statement that is required by an importing country to be entered on a phytosanitary certificate and which provides specific additional information pertinent to the phytosanitary condition of a consignment [FAO, 1990].

Advisory—of or pertaining to giving information and especially a warning.

Affiliated Island—island associated with the United States but **not** fully integrated as a State (i.e., American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Affiliated islands are insular areas monitored by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Agent—individual who meets the eligibility requirements set forth in 7CFR 353.6, and who is designated by USDA-APHIS to conduct phytosanitary field inspections of seed crops to serve as a basis for the issuance of Federal plant export certificates [7CFR 353.1]. Agents may conduct phytosanitary field inspections of seed crops in cooperation with and on behalf of those State plant regulatory agencies electing to use agents and maintaining a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with USDA-APHIS in accordance with the regulations. The MOU **must** state that agents shall be used in accordance with the regulations in 7CFR 353. Agents are **not** authorized to issue Federal plant export certificates, but are **only** authorized to conduct the field inspections of seed crops required as a basis for determining phytosanitary condition prior to the issuance of a Federal plant export certificate for the crops.

Agricultural Marketing Service—Federal agency that is responsible for inspecting, grading, classing, standardizing, regulating, sampling, testing, and reporting market news for specific agricultural and food commodities. USDA-APHIS-PPQ approves Agricultural Marketing Service inspection certificates as a basis for issuing PPQ Form 577 for certain commodities. See *Procedures, Inspection Guidelines*, [Figure 2-4-2 on page 2-4-6](#), for a list of acceptable inspection certificates.

AMS—See [Agricultural Marketing Service](#).

Application for Inspection and Certification of Domestic Plants and Plant Products for Export—official form, PPQ Form 572, that provides the information needed to complete a Federal plant export certificate and serves as a worksheet for the Authorized Certification Official conducting the inspection. See *Appendix B, Forms*, [PPQ Form 572, Application for Inspection and Certification of Domestic Plants and Plant Products for Export](#) on [page B-1-13](#) for directions on how exporters are to complete the application.

Approved name—approved names of countries are referenced in EXCERPT and **must** be used when completing Federal plant export certificates. See *Appendix C, List of Countries* on [page C-1-1](#) for a cross-referenced list. Approved names are also published in the International Standard, ISO 3166.

Approved testing methods—as relates to potatoes, bioassay, serodiagnostic, or other testing methods including but **not** limited to, gel electrophoresis and molecular hybridization, using methods which have been approved by the Certification Section of the Potato Association of America.

Area freedom—See [Pest free area \(PFA\)](#).

Artificially propagated—parties of CITES recommend that artificially propagated **only** applies to plants grown by man from seeds, cuttings, callus tissue, spores, or other propagules under controlled conditions. The artificially propagated stock **must** be established and maintained in a manner **not** detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild, and managed in a manner designed to maintain the artificially propagated stock indefinitely.

ASCS—See [Agricultural Marketing Service](#).

Authorized Certification Official (ACO)—a public officer who is authorized by the National Plant Protection Organization and accredited for the signing of phytosanitary certificates, who 1) possesses the required education, experience, and training; and 2) has written confirmation of having successfully passed an approved examination [NAPPO, 1999]. See also [Accreditation](#).

Authorized port—specific port identified by the importing country as to where to direct the entry of plants or plant products. Also called approved port and point of entry.

Bedding plants—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, bedding plants are outdoor garden plants that are grown under protection and later sold for planting in outdoor gardens. Examples of bedding plants include marigolds, petunias, and geraniums.

Broker—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, a broker is an exporter who **does not** own or operate a facility for producing plants, but ships plants produced by other designated facilities.

Cacti—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, cacti are plants that are adapted for storing water for extended periods of drought. They generally **do not** have leaves, and almost all species are spiny, with spines growing from small cushion-like structures called areolas. Examples of cacti include barrel cactus, prickly pear, Christmas cactus, and Easter cactus.

Certificate—an official document which attests to the phytosanitary status of any consignment affected by phytosanitary regulations [FAO 1990].

Certificate of Heat Treatment—an official document, PPQ Form 553, used to certify that conifer solid wood packing material to the People's Republic of China has been heat treated through a treatment process that increased the minimum core wood temperature to 56 degrees Celsius for 30 minutes.

Certification—as relates to potatoes, a process where employees of an official certification agency visually inspect growing grounds or facilities and crops thereon or therein, and have determined that the standards applicable have been met. Certification **does not** warrant that the seed potatoes to which official indicia or certification are attached or which are otherwise represented as certified, are merchantable or fit for particular purpose.

CITES—See [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna](#).

CITES Appendix I—See [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna](#).

CITES Appendix II—See [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna](#).

CITES Appendix III—See [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna](#).

Class—as relates to potatoes, class is a seed-quality level as relates to compliance with the specified tolerances for diseases and varietal purity.

Clone—as relates to potatoes, clone is all of the progeny of a single explant and/or plantlets.

Confidentiality—holding information in strict confidence. Authorized Certification Officials are to hold in strict confidence the information in Federal plant export certificates to protect buyers and exporters. See also *Procedures, Export Certificates*, [Confidentiality](#) on [page 2-5-5](#).

Consignment—one shipment of plants or plant products, from one exporter, to one consignee, in one country, on one means of conveyance; or any mail shipment to one consignee [7CFR 353.1]. A quantity of plants, plant products and/or other articles being moved

from one country to another and covered, when required, by a single phytosanitary certificate (a consignment may be composed of one or more commodities or lots) [FAO, 1990; revised ICPM, 2001].

Consignment in transit—a consignment that is **not** imported into a country but passes through it to another country, subject to official procedures which ensure that it remains enclosed, and is **not** split up, **not** combined with other consignments nor has its packaging changed [FAO, 1990; revised CEPM, 1996; CEPM 1999; ICPM, 2002 formerly country of transit].

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna—a multinational treaty that regulates the export and re-export of listed species of wild fauna and flora. CITES provides three appendixes for listing plants. These appendixes, listed in order of their restrictiveness, are as follows:

- ◆ CITES Appendix I—any genus, species, subspecies, or variety, globally threatened with extinction through trade
- ◆ CITES Appendix II—any taxon (the entire family—all genera and all species) that **must** be regulated in order to avoid the threat of extinction through trade
- ◆ CITES Appendix III—any species, subspecies, or variety listed by one country in order to enlist the cooperation of other countries to reinforce domestic conservation measures by regulating trade

Cooperator—plant regulatory officials designated under the Federal-State Cooperative Program that their State has entered into with the USDA. Specific plant regulatory officials are authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture to inspect and certify the phytosanitary conditions of plants and plant products offered for export and to issue Federal plant export certificates. Officials designated as cooperators **must** meet or exceed the basic requirements as detailed in *Special Procedures*, **Federal-State Cooperative Program** on page 3-4-1.

Designated facility—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program (the Program), a designated facility is a nursery establishment that has signed a compliance agreement and is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Program. Plants shipped by a designated facility may be produced at their own facility or may be produced at another facility approved in the Program.

Disease tested—as relates to potatoes, a process using approved methods where each explant has been tested for and found free from potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTV), potato virus A (PVA), potato virus M

(PVM), potato virus S (PVS), potato virus X (PVX), potato virus Y (PVY), leafroll (PLRV), bacterial ring rot (BRR), and bacterial soft rot/blackleg (*Erwinia* spp.).

Domestic products—are those plants and unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products grown or produced in the United States, its possessions, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

ECM—Initials representing the *Export Certification Manual*.

ECR—See [Export Certification Record \(ECR\)](#).

ECS—See [Export Certification Specialist \(ECS\)](#).

Endangered—See [Endangered Species Act \(ESA\)](#).

Endangered Species Act (ESA)—enabling legislation that provides for the protection of listed species in two categories. These categories, listed in order of their restrictiveness, are as follows:

1. **Endangered**—any species, subspecies, or variety that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
2. **Threatened**—any species, subspecies, or variety that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

ESA—see [Endangered Species Act \(ESA\)](#).

EU—Initials representing the European Union. See [European Union \(EU\)](#).

European Union (EU)—mutually beneficial association of the following member States (countries): Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, and Vatican City State. For the most current list of member States, see EXCERPT.

EXCERPT—See [Export Certification Project](#).

Explant—as relates to potatoes, an in-vitro potato plant or plantlet produced by rooting an excised tip of a tuber sprout or an auxiliary bud from a growing plant, which shall serve as a parent for a whole clone or accession of micro-propagated plants or plantlets.

Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products—an accountable certificate, PPQ Form 578, used to certify eligible processed products for which PPQ Form 577 or PPQ Form 579 **cannot** be issued. The intended purpose of the Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products is to assist U.S. exporters whose shipments may be placed in jeopardy if such a document is **not** issued. See also *Procedures, Export Certificates, PPQ Form 578, Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products* on page 2-5-32.

Export Certification Project—an electronic database known as EXCERPT, which provides current information on the plant import requirements of foreign countries and other related reference lists such as processed products, ineligible products, endangered species, Export Certification Specialists, designated CITES ports, recent summary changes, phytosanitary notes, messages and alerts.

Export Certification Record (ECR)—an official form, APHIS Form 80-R, used by ACOs to track and monitor accountable Federal plant export certificates (prepaid and those issued upon request). See also *Special Procedures, User Fees* on page 3-11-1.

Export Certification Specialist (ECS)—PPQ employee who is responsible for maintaining the quality and credibility of the phytosanitary export certification program. See EXCERPT for a list of the Export Certification Specialists along with a description of their jurisdiction. See also, *Procedures, Preparation, Roles and Responsibilities* on page 2-1-10.

Export Services (ES)—Headquarters unit within USDA-APHIS-PPQ that maintains a phytosanitary certification system for exported U.S. agricultural commodities. USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Export Services, 4700 River Road, Unit 140, Riverdale, Maryland 20737; phone 301-734-8537; FAX 301-734-3249.

Export summary—interpretation of the plant quarantine import requirements of a foreign country. Export summaries provide guidance to Authorized Certification Officials, Export Certification Specialists, and other regulatory officials and interested parties concerned with the export of plants and plant products. Export summaries are **not** to be considered legally authoritative; they are written from translated plant quarantine regulations, official instructions, and other information provided by officials in foreign countries. Export summaries are housed in EXCERPT.

FAO—See [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#).

Farm Service Agency (FSA)—the Federal agency that among other duties, is involved with certifying Title II (PL 480) commodities (such as corn soya milk, corn soya blend, wheat protein concentrate, and vegetable oil). These types of commodities are **not** eligible for Federal plant export certificates.

Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS)—a service program within the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration Agency that provides inspection of grain exports that are certified by Federal plant export certificates. Also, the Federal Grain Inspection Service is responsible for inspecting, grading, classing, standardizing, sampling, witnessing treatments, and testing specific agricultural and food commodities.

Federal Phytosanitary Certificate (FPC)—an accountable inspection certificate, PPQ Form 577, used to certify domestic plants and unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products for export that have been inspected according to appropriate procedures, that are considered to be free from quarantine pests and practically free from other injurious pests, and that conform with the current phytosanitary regulations of the importing country.

Federal plant export certificates—official documents that attest to the phytosanitary condition of plants or plant products and are issued by Authorized Certification Officials. See also *Procedures*, **Export Certificates** on page 2-5-1.

FGIS—See **Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS)**.

Flowering greenhouse plants—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, are those plants grown for their attractive flowers. They are grown indoors and are often incapable of surviving outdoor growing conditions in colder climates. Examples of flowering greenhouse plants include poinsettias, Easter lilies, hydrangeas, cyclamens, gloxinias, and hibiscus.

Foliage plants—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, foliage plants are distinguished by the beautiful foliage they produce rather than by the flowers. Examples of foliage plants includes all tropical plants such as dieffenbachias, ferns, scheffleras, and philodendrons as well as coleus, crontons, fittonias, pileas, and peperomia.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—an organization that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Serving both developed and developing countries, the Food and Agriculture

Organization of the United Nations acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy, and is also a source of knowledge and information.

Foreign products—are those plants and unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products that have officially entered U.S. commerce but were grown or produced in countries **other than** the United States, its possessions, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

FPC—See [Federal Phytosanitary Certificate \(FPC\)](#).

FPC-R—See [Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport \(PC-R\)](#).

FSA—See [Farm Service Agency \(FSA\)](#).

GIPSA—See [Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration Agency \(GIPSA\)](#).

Grade—as relates to potatoes, the tuber quality as relates to compliance with specific tolerances for tuber sizes, defects, diseases and other factors outlined in the U.S. No. 1 Seed Potato Grade.

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration Agency (GIPSA)—a Federal agency that facilitates the marketing of livestock, poultry, meat, cereals, oilseeds, and related agricultural products, and promotes fair and competitive trading practices for the overall benefit of consumers and American agriculture.

Growing season inspection—an examination of plants during active growth to verify freedom from specific pests or pathogens. Also may include the growing media or soil.

Hybrid—for CITES purposes, hybrid is the offspring of two genetically dissimilar taxa where at least one parent is listed in a CITES Appendix. This would include the offspring of parents belonging to different species, different genera, and crosses made between a species and a hybrid. Offspring from parents of the same species (i.e., intra-specific crosses) are regulated as species and are **not** considered hybrids.

ICPM—Initials representing the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

Import Permit (IP)—official document authorizing importation of a commodity in accordance with specified phytosanitary requirements [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995].

Inspection certificates—cooperating agencies such as Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) perform export inspections for specified commodities and issue certificates that may be accepted by USDA-APHIS-PPQ in place of inspection. These certificates are based on officially drawn samples and export inspections conducted by designed FGIS personnel. While **not** all certificates are accepted by USDA-APHIS-PPQ in place of inspection, examples of acceptable inspection certificates issued by FGIS and other agencies are in *Appendix D, [Inspection Certificates](#)* on **page D-1-1**.

Inspector—person authorized by a National Plant Protection Organization to discharge its functions [FAO, 1990]. An employee of APHIS or a State or county plant regulatory official designated by the Secretary of Agriculture to inspect and certify to shippers and other interested parties, as to the phytosanitary condition of plant products inspected under the Act (Plant Protection Act) [7CFR 353.1].

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)—International Plant Protection Convention, as deposited with FAO in Rome in 1951 and as subsequently amended [FAO, 1990]. (See also web site address: www.aphis.usda.gov/export/pipps.html.)

International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM)—an international standard adopted by the Conference of FAO, the Interim Commission on phytosanitary measures or the Commission on phytosanitary measures, established under the IPPC [CEPM, 1996; revised CEPM, 1999].

IP—See [Import Permit \(IP\)](#).

IPPC—See [International Plant Protection Convention \(IPPC\)](#).

ISPM—See [International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPM\)](#).

KD—initials representing kiln drying. Kiln drying is a process in which wood is dried in a closed chamber using heat and/or humidity control to achieve a required moisture content [ISPM Pub. N° 15, 2002]. KD is marked on lumber to indicate the treatment has been conducted.

Lead time—amount of time needed to inspect or examine a shipment before its shipping date. (Some countries interpret shipping date as the date a commodity physically leaves the exporting country.)

Letter of Credit—a document issued by a bank authorizing an exporter to draw a stated amount of money from the issuing bank. Letters of credit are strictly fiduciary document. For the purposes of

phytosanitary certification, letters of credit **cannot** be considered official notifications of changes or exceptions to plant quarantine regulations, which **must** come from the plant protection services of the foreign countries. Therefore, letters of credit are **not** phytosanitary documents and **cannot** be referenced on a Federal plant export certificate.

Limited Generation System—a certification scheme wherein the planting stock for each seed class is limited as to eligibility by compliance with established disease tolerances and the number of increases made in the field. The classes or generations of the limited generation system included are: Prenuclear, Nuclear, Generation 1, Generation 2, Generation 3, Generation 4 and Generation 5; where Prenuclear is laboratory production, Nuclear is greenhouse production and Generations 1-5 are the first and subsequent field increases.

Local PPQ contact point—a designated PPQ officer who is responsible for assisting Export Certification Specialists in maintaining the quality and credibility of export certification. These designated local PPQ contact points are listed in EXCERPT along with the Export Certification Specialists. See also [Export Certification Specialist \(ECS\)](#).

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)—a formal document that specifies the responsibilities and areas of cooperation mutually understood and agreed to by the parties involved. An example is the Memorandum of Understanding negotiated between a State plant regulatory agency and USDA-APHIS-PPQ that authorized State regulatory officials to issue Federal plant export certificates. See *Special Procedures*, [Federal-State Cooperative Program](#) on page 3-4-1.

Microtubers—as relates to potatoes, microtubers are small tubers produced under aseptic culture conditions in a laboratory.

Minitubers—as relates to potatoes, minitubers are small tubers produced in a soilless medium under greenhouse conditions controlled to exclude pests and diseases.

Monitoring—an official process to verify phytosanitary situations. [CEPM, 1996]. See also [Treatment](#).

MOU—See [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#).

NAPPO—See [North American Plant Protection Organization \(NAPPO\)](#).

National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)—official service established by a government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC [FAO, 1990; formerly Plant Protection Organization (National)]. PPQ serves as NPPO for the United States.

Non-quarantine pest—pest that is **not** a quarantine pest for an area [FAO, 1995].

North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)—a Regional Plant Protection Organization of the International Plant Protection Convention that coordinates the efforts among Canada, the United States and Mexico to protect their plant resources from the entry, establishment and spread of regulated plant pests, while facilitating intr/interregional trade. (See also web site address: <www.nappo.org>)

NPPO—see [National Plant Protection Organization \(NPPO\)](#).

Nursery establishment—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, a nursery establishment is a company that owns or operates a facility for producing plants.

Off-type—different from the cultivar, variety, strain, or selection on the application for certification.

Official State Seed Potato Certification Agency—a State agency duly authorized by State law to provide seed potato certification services. See also *Special Procedures*, [U.S. Export Standards for Seed Potatoes](#) on page 3-10-1.

Official verification (OV)—confirmation by an Authorized Certification Official that certain plant health conditions have been satisfied. Official verifications are **not** entered on Federal plant export certificates.

Orchids—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, orchids are a special group of flowering plants comprising approximately 25,000 species. Orchids are best recognized by their bilaterally symmetrical flowers. Some of the most popular greenhouse genera include *Cattleya*, *Cymbidium*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Dendrobium*, *Odontoglossum*, and *Oncidium*.

OV—See [Official verification \(OV\)](#).

Party country—a country, including its territories, that is a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, by virtue of ratification or accession.

PC—See [Phytosanitary certificate \(PC\)](#).

PCIT—Initials representing Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking system. This is a computer system currently being piloted to generate electronic Federal plant export certificates. For further information, contact the PCIT Coordinator of USDA-APHIS-PPQ Export Services.

Pest—any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants or plant products [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997]. See also [Quarantine pest](#) and [Non-quarantine pest](#).

Pest free area (PFA)—an area in which a specific pest **does not** occur as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being **officially** maintained [FAO, 1995].

Pest free place of production—plant of production in which a specific pest **does not** occur as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained for a defined period [ISPM Pub. N° 10, 1999].

Pest free production site—a defined portion of a place of production in which a specific pest **does not** occur as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained for a defined period and that is managed as a separate unit in the same way as a pest free place of production [ISPM Pub. N° 10, 1999].

PFA—See [Pest free area \(PFA\)](#).

Phytosanitary certificate (PC)—certificate patterned after the model certificates of the IPPC [FAO, 1990].

Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (PC-R)— an accountable form, PPQ Form 579, used to certify that, based on an original foreign phytosanitary certificate and/or an additional inspection, the plants or plant products officially entered the United States, are considered to conform to the current phytosanitary regulations of the importing country, and have **not** been subjected to the risk of infestation or infection during storage in the United States. PPQ Form 579 may also be used to certify commodities of foreign origin that are intended for re-export to a U.S. Affiliated Island.

Phytosanitary Note (PN)—current, accurate, and timely information provided by Export Services to field personnel concerned with the export of plants and plant products. Phytosanitary notes cover such

topics as interpretations of import requirements of foreign countries, import requirements of foreign countries for which there is **no** export summary, and administrative guidance about nationwide export certification issues and about issuing Federal plant export certificates.

Place of production—any premises or collection of fields operated as a single production or farming unit. This may include production sites which are separately managed for phytosanitary purposes [FAO, 1990; revised CEPM, 1999].

Plant products—unmanufactured material of plant origin (including grain) and those manufactured products that, by their nature or that of their processing, may create a risk for the introduction and spread of pests [FAO, 1990; revised IPPC, 1997; formerly plant product].

Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)—organizational unit within USDA-APHIS that is accountable for assisting exporters in meeting the plant quarantine import requirements of foreign countries.

Plantlets—as relates to seed potatoes, plantlets are small plants produced under aseptic culture conditions in a laboratory.

Plants—living plants and parts thereof, including seeds and germplasm [FAO, 1990; revised IPPC, 1997]. Any plant (including any plant part) for or capable of propagation, including a tree, a tissue culture, a plantlet culture, pollen, a shrub, a vine, a cutting, a graft, a scion, a bud, a bulb, a root, and a seed. [Plant Protection Act]. As relates to seed potatoes, plants are rooted plants produced under a screenshow, greenhouse, or field environment.

Plants for planting—plants intended to remain planted, to be planted or replanted [FAO, 1990].

Plants in vitro—a commodity class for plants in an aseptic medium in a closed container [FAO, 1990; revised CEPM, 1999; ICPM, 2002 formerly plants in tissue culture].

PN—See [Phytosanitary Note \(PN\)](#).

Potted bulb plants—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, potted bulb plants are those produced by forcing bulbs to flower, usually for the Christmas and Easter markets. Examples of potted bulb plants include tulips, narcissus, crocus, hyacinths, iris, and amaryllis.

PPC—See [Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products](#).

PPQ—See [Plant Protection and Quarantine \(PPQ\)](#).

PPQ Form 553—Certificate of Heat Treatment (see also [Certificate of Heat Treatment](#)).

PPQ Form 572—Application of Inspection and Certification of Domestic Plants and Plant Products for Export (see also [Application for Inspection and Certification of Domestic Plants and Plant Products for Export](#)).

PPQ Form 578—Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products (see also [Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products](#)).

PPQ Form 577—Federal Phytosanitary Certificate (see also [Federal Phytosanitary Certificate \(FPC\)](#)).

PPQ Form 579—Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (see also [Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport \(PC-R\)](#)).

Practically free— a consignment, field, or place of production, without pests (or a specific 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 [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995]. As a working definition for export certification purposes, practically free means **not** to exceed a 2 percent infestation level unless otherwise stated by the importing country. Also, practically free refers to a judgement that the pests are **not** in excess of the amount expected to result from, and be consistent with, good culturing and handling practices employed in the production and marketing of the commodity. When FGIS inspection certificates are used as supporting documentation for certifying grain, practically free refers to FGIS' acceptance standards for weevils found in grain.

Practically free from other injurious pests (practically free)—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, practically free from other injurious pests means **not** carrying pests or a specific pest in numbers or quantities in excess of those that can be expected to result from and be consistent with good culturing and handling practices employed in the production and marketing of the commodity.

Processed plant product—a commodity derived from a plant that has been subjected to a procedure believed to have rendered the commodity free from plant pests. See EXCERPT for a list of processed products that are eligible for certification for which an ACO may issue PPQ Form 578.

Protocol—the plan for communicating questions, concerns, and unresolved issues about export certification. See *Procedures, Preparation, [Contact Protocol](#)* on **page 2-1-19**.

Quarantine pest—a pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and **not** yet present there, or present but **not** widely distributed and being officially controlled [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997]. As relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, quarantine pests are identified by each importing country and are listed as prohibited pests in the importing country's plant quarantine import requirements (export summary). Quarantine pests are those that are of potential economic importance to the area endangered, and are **not** present, or present but **not** widely distributed and being officially controlled.

Regulated non-quarantine pest—a non-quarantine pest whose presence in plants for planting affects the intended use of those plants with an economically unacceptable impact and which is therefore regulated within the territory of the importing contracting party. [IPPC, 1997].

Restriction—a phytosanitary regulation allowing the importation or movement of specified commodities subject to specific requirements [CEPM, 1996, revised CEPM, 1999].

Seed potatoes—potato plantlets, plants, microtubers, minitubers, tubercles and tubers.

Shipment—as a working definition for export certification purposes, shipment means one exportation of plants or plant products, from one exporter, to one consignee, in one country, on one means of conveyance [7CFR 353]. In most cases, **only** one Federal plant export certificate is issued per shipment. See also [Consignment](#).

Solid wood packing material (SWPM)—wood packing materials, **other than** loose wood packing materials, used or for use with cargo to prevent damage including, but **not** limited to, dunnage, crating, pallets, packing blocks, drums, cases, and skids [7CFR 319.40-1]. Solid wood packing material is often constructed from raw wood just shortly before use, often includes bark on some surfaces, and is often made from low quality wood that sometimes may be of low quality due to pest damage. Conifer wood is wood that comes from predominately evergreen, cone-bearing trees, such as pine, spruce, hemlock, or fir.

State phytosanitary certificate—document issued by a plant regulatory official of a State Department of Agriculture attesting to the phytosanitary condition of plants or plant products. A State certificate documents origin, treatment, active growth field inspection, virus

indexing, or other special conditions. Under the current cooperator Memorandum of Understanding, State phytosanitary certificates are **not** to be utilized for international trade.

Succulents—as relates to the U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program, succulents are thick fleshy plants capable of storing large quantities of water in their leaves and stems. Many succulent plants are spineless. Succulents with spines differ from cacti in that the spines grow directly from the plants tissue rather than from structures called areoles. Some examples of succulent plants grown in greenhouses are jade plants, aloe vera, and crown-of-thorns.

SWPM—See [Solid wood packing material \(SWPM\)](#).

Systems approach(es)—the integration of different pest risk management measures, at least two of which act independently, and which cumulatively achieve the appropriate level of phytosanitary protection. [ISPM Pub. N° 14, 2002].

Terrestrial plants—any plant (including epiphytic plants), **except** marine plants.

Threatened—see [Endangered Species Act \(ESA\)](#).

Treatment—officially authorized procedure for the killing, removal or rendering pests infertile. [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; ISPM Pub. N° 15, 2002].

Tubercles—small tubers produced in leaf axils of leaf bud cuttings.

Tubers—as relates to seed potatoes, potatoes produced under field conditions.

Validation—as a working definition for export certification purposes, validation is the verification of authenticity of a document. Specifically related to certifying CITES and ESA plants for export, validation is an original stamp, signature, and date of inspection placed on documents by PPQ officers.

Virus X-Tested—tested for and found to be within tolerance for PVX using approved testing methods.

Wood—a commodity class for round wood, sawn wood, wood chips or dunnage, with or without bark [FAO, 1990; revised ICPM, 2001].

Glossary

Definitions, Terms, and Abbreviations

World Trade Organization (WTO)—the global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations (see also web site address: <www.wto.org>).