

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) under agreement with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and in partnership with the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC) and Canadian Ornamental Horticulture Alliance (COHA) are collaborating with stakeholders in the development of a voluntary biosecurity standard that will help protect Canada's Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture sector from plant pests. This voluntary standard provides the framework for a nationally consistent approach to controlling plant pests in the greenhouse, nursery and floriculture sectors.

The standard for the greenhouse, nursery and floriculture sectors will:

- provide guidelines for biosecurity, including prevention and integrated pest management;
- promote a nationally consistent approach to mitigating pest risks with clear guidelines for effective biosecurity;
- enhance industry's knowledge of the risks associated with pests; and
- help identify potential gaps in current biosecurity measures.

Sector specific producer guides will accompany the standard and provide additional information on approaches that can be used to achieve the biosecurity goals identified in the standard. Development of the producer guides will begin following the completion of the standard and it is anticipated that the three producer guides will be available to stakeholders by the end of the 2016 calendar year.

The Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture Biosecurity Advisory Committee that was established by the CFIA, AAFC and industry partners have developed a draft of the farm-level biosecurity standard. Committee members have been asked to communicate with their respective membership for input into this initial draft of the standard to ensure it reflects the needs of the greenhouse, nursery and floriculture producers across Canada.

Please review the attached draft standard and provide:

- 1) Comments and suggested edits to the standard. Where edits or changes are required, please provide the suggested revisions and the reason for the revision.
- 2) Guidance on which sections require additional information or clarification.

Your input into *The National Voluntary Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard for the Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture Sector* is greatly appreciated.