



# Good Cultivation Hygiene in Greenhouses



## HYGIENE ROUTINES TO PREVENT PLANT DISEASE AND PEST INSECTS

### Preventive means recommended to all growers:

- ❑ Employees and visitors should always sanitize their hands when they arrive at the greenhouse.
- ❑ Keep the front doors locked.
- ❑ Disinfectant mats should be present at all entrances, and they should be kept clean and be refilled on a regular basis.
- ❑ It is strongly prohibited to bring fresh vegetables and fruits to the greenhouse.
- ❑ Visitors should always wear protective clothing, shoe covers, and gloves. The same applies for service personnel where possible.
- ❑ Paper for taking notes should be offered to visitors to avoid that private notebooks are brought into the greenhouse.
- ❑ Mobile phones and other private belongings should not be brought into the greenhouse, neither by visitors nor employees.
- ❑ Non-commercial plants should not be cultivated in the greenhouse.
- ❑ Train all staff how to recognize plant diseases and pest insects.
- ❑ Use yellow sticky traps and conduct regular follow ups on flying pest insects.
- ❑ Only harvest in crates meant for that specific purpose. Do not use crates that circulate via the packing house for plant debris.
- ❑ Use only new disposable packaging for direct sales.
- ❑ If crates are brought back from shops, they should always be washed with boiling hot water (100°C)
- ❑ Shoe and hand sanitation between each greenhouse and department is recommended.
- ❑ A disinfectant mat for pump trucks that are used for collecting products, is recommended.



## ACTION PLAN FOR THE GREENHOUSE

### Common limiting strategy when a new pest is suspected:

- ❑ Contact the crop advisor or report the pest suspicion directly to the plant inspectors at the Centre for Economic Development, Traffic and the Environment (NTM-centralen, ELY-keskus)
- ❑ Inform everyone concerned (buyers, packaging houses, entrepreneurs, crop advisors, nurseries, retailers, etc.) that a pest has been discovered or is suspected in the greenhouse.
- ❑ Divide the work so that only one or a few persons from the staff enter the greenhouse or department where the pest is suspected.
- ❑ Restrict mobility in the area where the pest is suspected.
- ❑ Be strict on that the staff should use protective clothing and disposable gloves, and that they should use hand sanitizer immediately after leaving the greenhouse/department/limited area.
- ❑ Use separate tools, carts and containers in the affected area and sanitize them every so often.
- ❑ All plant debris should be brought to a composting area where the risk of spread to other greenhouses is minimal.
- ❑ Do not accept visitors.





## **FURTHER PRECAUTIONS**

### **When arriving to the greenhouse:**

- Wash your hands with soap and water prior to sanitation. Applies after breaks as well.
- The staff changes to clean workwear, which can be their own or supplied by the grower.
- Disinfect tools and change gloves when moving from one plant row to another.
- Do not move carts and tools between greenhouses/departments.
- Keep the area surrounding the greenhouse clean and tidy.
- Train the staff in plant hygiene matters on a regular basis.

### **Contact details of the plant inspectors at the Centre for Economic Development, Traffic and the Environment (ELY-Centre)**

- Fredrik Ström, 050 312 8646
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