



Phase 1 Clean Plants for *P. ramorum* Certified Nurseries

On April 1, 2012, the *P. ramorum* Certification Program has been integrated into the nationally accepted Clean Plants Certification Program.

For full Clean Plants Certification, you must complete the whole process: apply, submit manual, pass an audit. Details at www.cleanplants.ca

Questions & Answers

So what's the downside to Clean Plants? There is no doubt that you will need to invest both time and money to become Clean Plants Certified. But once the system is in place, most growers find it to be a manageable routine that signifies an increased level of professionalism at their nurseries.

Is Clean Plants for everyone? Some nurseries have a clientele that is not concerned with Certification. They may not ship to other growers, or may be highly specialized and localized. Each grower must do their own assessment as to the return on their investment in this program.

How much work will this take? It depends on the scale of your nursery, but most nurseries intuitively fulfill most of the requirements; all that's needed is to write the manual. For *P. ramorum* Certified nurseries, much of your info simply needs to be transcribed into the Clean Plants manual. On average, manual writing is reported to take about a week.

The manual is 83 pages long?! Yes. But the majority includes helpful info and checklists, and does not require written comment; some sections may not apply to you—in that case, simply mark them N/A.

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Are there certain buyers who demand Clean Plants? Several municipalities are planning to require Clean Plants Certified stock

What does Clean Plants have to do with "CNCP"? The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) created CNCP for nurseries that ship product internationally on a fairly regular basis. As a rule, CNCP nurseries may not have more than 5% of their plant stock originating from non-CNCP vendors. But, Clean Plants Certified nurseries are an exception to the rule, and can supply CNCP clients.

Is anyone already Clean Plants Certified? Yes! Find a current list on www.cleanplants.ca.

Is anyone doing the Phase 1 Clean Plants thing? Yes! A number of formerly *P. ramorum* Certified nurseries have begun to transition to Clean Plants through the Phase 1 Clean Plants gradual integration option. Find a current list on www.cleanplants.ca.

Is this all I need to know? If you think the Clean Plants Certification program is right for you, contact our staff or visit www.cleanplants.ca for all the info.

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