

Appendix 3:

Pest Risk Assessment

At any nursery, the simplicity or complexity of the system depends on purchase and growing practices. For the purposes of the Phase 1 *C. Buxicola* Certification Program, risk is determined by the following factors:

- Whether the nursery is producing boxwood and pachysandra plants
- Whether plants are propagated in-house or purchased from outside sources
- Whether suppliers are Clean Plants or CNCP-certified and reliable for their pest management program
- Whether the nursery is practicing BMPs and Biosecurity
- Whether plants are inspected shortly after they arrive at the nursery
- Whether the nursery has an inventory system that allows trace-back of plants to the point of origin and trace-forward of plants to the buyer or final destination

The following questions examine the potential to introduce or spread *C. buxicola*. Consider every risk situation and identify whether the risk for your operation would be (L), medium (M) or high (H). Response category parameters (L, M, H) are suggestions only.

Risk Assessment Questionnaire		Check Risk Level for each risk situation		
RISK SITUATION		L	M	H
1	How much of your boxwood and pachysandra plant production is purchased from off-nursery sources? L = 0 to 30% M = 30 to 70% H = 70 to 100%			
2	Are your boxwood and pachysandra suppliers certified (Clean Plants or CNCP)? L = all suppliers are certified M = some suppliers are certified H = none of the suppliers are certified			

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3	How much of your boxwood and pachysandra plant purchases are from U.S.A. or off shore suppliers that do not follow a CNCI approved certification program? ¹ L = 0 to 30%, M = 30 to 70%, H = 70 to 100%			
4	When receiving plants from outside sources, how often do you inspect for pests and document the inspection in writing? L = all shipments are inspected and documented M = some of the shipments are inspected but there is no documentation H = shipments are not inspected on arrival			
5	Considering “trace back” of products to suppliers and clients: L = all plants can be traced to purchasers and suppliers via electronic or paper records M = plants can be traced to purchaser but cannot be traced to supplier H = the nursery does not have a documented trace back system			
6	Does the nursery consistently implement all of the best management practices, as well as biosecurity and sanitation policies? L = practices and policies are consistently followed year round M = practices and policies are followed, but there is some exceptions during the busy shipping season H = practices and policies are not always followed consistently			
7	Does the nursery monitor for symptoms of Box Blight consistently every two weeks throughout the growing season? L = monitoring is contently and thoroughly conducted every two weeks throughout the growing season M = monitoring is conducted every two weeks, but not as thoroughly when the nursery is really busy H = monitoring is conducted every two weeks, but not all of the boxwood and pachysandra is included for each monitoring session			

¹ Phytosanitary Certificates accompanying the US or any foreign supplied orders are simply an end point inspection by qualified inspectors. The ‘Phyto’ does not indicate the level of BMP’s or any other system approaches used or in place at the supplying US or off shore nursery. Nurseries should investigate practices at the supplier’s nursery to further determine risk.