



**St Helena  
Government**

**Environment, Natural Resources and  
Planning Portfolio**

**BIOSECURITY**

## **General guidelines for importers of seeds for growing purposes**

These general guidelines cover the importation of seeds for growing purposes into the Island of St Helena which are not already covered by specific Import Health Standards.

St Helena has relatively few pests, weeds and diseases compared to countries such as South Africa and the UK. Imported goods are a way in which new ones can be introduced to the island. Seeds can harbour pests and diseases which affect beneficial plants or St Helenas endemic species. Some are potentially invasive they therefore pose a biosecurity risk which these guidelines are designed to minimise.

- You do not require an import licence to import seeds for growing purposes to St Helena
- All seeds for growing purposes must be commercially packaged, sealed and labelled
- Labels should show both the botanical and common names of the seed, the number of seeds contained and the country of origin
- Information must be written in English or have an English translation
- Seeds prohibited or restricted by law (eg Sunflower seeds originating from South America) or those which are from potentially invasive plants will not be allowed to be imported
- All packaging should be new, clean, free from dirt, debris of plant or animal origin, live insects or other invertebrates and other contaminants
- It is your responsibility to make sure your supplier and/or packer understands that consignments must meet these conditions.
- Contaminated items or items not conforming to these guidelines may be refused entry into St Helena.
- Further information can be obtained from:  
Julie Balchin, Biosecurity Officer  
Address: ENRP, Scotland, Island of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ  
Telephone: + (290) 24724  
Email: [Julie.balchin@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Julie.balchin@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Dated 01/10/2021