



## Plant Health Policy

Gerbera Designs believes that plant health and biosecurity is particularly important. As is required by law for plant passporting, we are registered as a Professional Operator with Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA), a Scottish Government department which oversees plant health. We follow the plant health policy as issued by the Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) by: -

- assessing plant health risks prior to undertaking any horticultural business activities.
- endeavouring to educate / train staff and inform our clients of the importance of good plant health.
- monitoring and maintaining plant health records within our business.
- specifying ranges of plants that are less susceptible to pest and disease.
- specifying the smallest plants possible in the knowledge that larger plants can provide a greater bio security risk.
- ensuring that growing media and soils are appropriate for planting as stressed plants pose a greater risk to infections. Good plant husbandry is key to reducing the impact of most diseases. So, we will ensure plants are appropriately watered. When moving plants, we will take care not to damage and unload as quickly as we can when arriving at site and ensure they have adequate water, air and light.
- endeavouring to only use nurseries that have robust plant health policies and robust monitoring systems in place and are registered “Professional Operators”.
- supporting local nurseries and UK grown plants or plants that have been imported responsibly. We will research the source of plants carefully and only select plants from reliable suppliers that practice good biosecurity.
- Ensuring we have effective procedures in place when plants are delivered, and these are communicated to our staff or sub-contractors. We will look for symptoms / signs of pest or disease damage.



- communicating sound husbandry practices to clients and where necessary sub-contractors to ensure plants stay healthy.
- regularly disinfecting tools and machinery.
- bagging infected material and disposing of it appropriately.
- continuing to work collaboratively with external organisations to contribute to the management of plant health risks to the UK.
- endeavouring to keep up to date with all current legislation relating to Plant Health.