



# CERTIFICATION OF FRUIT PLANTS

The marketing of fruit plants **within the European Union** is subject to several regulations:

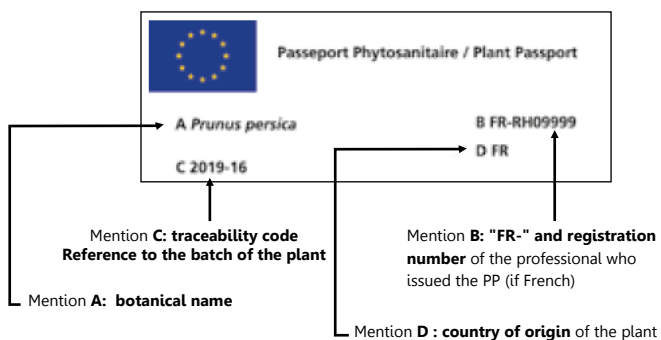
- the Plant Health Regulation,
- the Plant Marketing Directive.

## The plant passport

A fruit plant can only leave the nursery to be delivered to customers in the European Union if it is accompanied by a **Plant Passport (PP)** which must accompany the plants. In practice, in the case of grafted fruit plants, this PP will be found on the label of the bundle or of the individual plant.



## The elements of the plant passport:



The PP is governed by the Plant Health Regulation since 2019 throughout the EU. This regulation classifies diseases and pests into different categories, including **quarantine pests (QP)** and **regulated non-quarantine pests (RNQP)**.

For example, Plum pox is classified as a RNQP and Xylella as a QP. The Plant Health Regulations govern the observation and analysis of diseases, which may be visual or carried out in laboratories approved for the various diseases. **Checks are made throughout the production cycle of the plant.**

Since 2021, the CTIFL is the competent authority for all French nurseries involved in the certification of fruit plants, for both certified and CAC material.

## Certification of plant material

The phytosanitary regulation is accompanied by a regulation on the marketing of plant material which requires seedlings to be CAC or certified in order to be able to circulate in the EU.

## COMMUNITY AGRICULTURAL CONFORMITY

Community Agricultural Conformity (CAC) is the minimum standard. CAC trees come from an establishment recognised for its professionalism and using good sanitary practices, traceability, multiplication and varietal authenticity. These CAC plants are now controlled by the CTIFL, but as part of a 2nd level control.

Example of a CAC plant label

Variété: INOBI	Passeport Phytosanitaire-ZP Plant Passport-PZ Erwinia amylovora	Année: 2021	Matériel CAC
Provenance: PVECH	A Malus domestica cc 45287	B FR-PH10192 D FR	Règles et normes UE Valable pour:

## EUROPEAN CERTIFICATION

Certification was a national system until European certification came into force in 2017. The 2 pillars of the European certification are:

- The **absence of all diseases and viruses** listed in the certification specifications.
- **Controlled varietal authenticity.**

## THE INFEL® CERTIFICATION

However, French nurserymen have worked with the CTIFL to set up an even higher level of certification: **INFEL® certification**.

- The INFEL® certification differs from European certification in that:
- a greater number of pathogens are controlled and controls are stricter,
  - a limitation of the lifespan of the graftwood orchards,
  - individual labelling of the plants checked in the nursery before being lifted,
  - minimum plant size requirements.

Example of an INFEL® certified plant label

Variété et nom botanique : Rusticana (Malus domestica)	Plant Passport-PZ Erwinia amylovora	Parcelle / Coordonnées / N° de lot : PVFON20
CTIFL Valable pour : Greffons certifiés INFEL®	CTIFL - FRANCE Règles et normes UE Code fournisseur : PH10192	CC 42587 Année : 20 21

In France, certified and INFEL® certified plants are inspected by the CTIFL, as part of a first level control plan.

## Our advice

As the labels of certified plants are printed by the CTIFL, we do not have a copy and cannot provide a duplicate. When planting, keep a few labels of each batch, with the delivery note, in your files.