Van den Berk Nurseries

Quality assurance & Bio Security

Contents

Boomkwekerij Gebr. Van den Berk B.V.
March 2018

1. Introduction

Van den Berk Nurseries specialise in medium to very large sized trees, shrubs and rhododendrons. With around 500 hectares and a range that encompasses more than 1600 species and cultivars, we are one of the largest nurseries in Europe. Each day, more than 100 employees working at three locations use their knowledge and passion to cultivate, sell and deliver top quality trees to customers across 35 countries.

The trees end up in assorted locations such as city centres, business premises, parks and private gardens. This process involves our working closely with landscape architects, landscape contractors, garden designers, greenery managers and horticulturalists, enabling us jointly to complete the most successful greenery projects, and that is a source of great pride!

Van den Berk Nurseries exists more than 75 years. It is a family run business with the third generation at the helm and its focus on the long term. This means our main goal is to keep the company healthy. This applies to our market position, our employees and above all to our trees. Every day all our efforts are directed to growing excellent trees and shrubs. In this document you can read what measures we take to ensure the health & quality of our trees.

2. Plant Health legislation

The Phyto Directive (Directive 2000/29/EC) is the base of phytosanitary legislation of the European Union. The directive:

- names the organisms that are classified as harmful (quarantine);
- sets conditions for the cultivation or treatment of plants on import into the EU;
- names the plants that are subject to an import ban in the EU;
- regulates the document requirement for these plants,
- sets requirements for the production of certain plants in the EU.

NVWA and NAKTuinbouw
In the Netherlands, the NVWA (The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority, a department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality) and NAKTuinbouw (a body of NVWA) are responsible for research on plant health care, advice on policy and check on compliance with the rules. The Safety Authority is responsible for preventing the spread of harmful organisms: the body continuous carries out inspections and fights pests, imposes a cultivation ban or prohibits the transportation of plants if necessary. Since agriculture, including horticulture, is one of the top export sectors of the Netherlands **our regulations and inspections often go beyond EU legislation.**
Of course Van de Berk Nurseries, as being one of the leading nurseries, fully commits to the legislation in the EU and the Netherlands as well as to additional requirements of countries were our tree are exported to.

3. Pest Risk Analysis and IPPC

The NVWA also makes and publishes risk assessments. Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) is the main instrument for the scientific substantiation of government measures to prevent the introduction and spread

of harmful organisms. The evaluation of the risk of a pest for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and/or public green in the Netherlands consists of a 2 stage approach: at first a Quick scan and next a Pest Risk Analysis (PRA). A quick scan concerns a first risk categorisation to determine whether follow up measures are required for the pest under consideration. In case emergency measures are applied, a PRA is always completed to evaluate the necessity for continuance of these measures. PRA procedures in the Netherlands make use of information from scientific literature, experts, stakeholders, inspection agencies, etcetera. The completion of a PRA is based on international standards. Cooperation takes place with other members of EPPO (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization) through relevant EPPO panels. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) recognizes PRA as one of the leading principles for the establishment of phytosanitary measures.

4. Plant passports, traceability and inspections

Certain plants, listed in the register of products requiring a plant passport, need to have a plant passport when transported within the EU. A plant passport guarantees that the product is free from dangerous organisms included on the quarantine organisms list. The plant passport is an official document to certify the phytosanitary status of plant material. In The Netherlands NAKTuinbouw performs the inspections and is authorised by the NVWA to issue plant passports. The policy regulations and inspection regulations are embedded in the Seeds and Planting Materials Act. This legislation is contained in the Inspection Regulations NAKTuinbouw, third version 2018. See this link for the complete document.
For the most updated list of products requiring a plant passport please go to:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/trade_eu_en

Register and traceability
NAKTuinbouw keeps a register of producers and traders of plant passport obligated products and ensures that the registered companies:

- Have an up-to-date description of the plots where the production of the plant passport obligated products takes place.
- Have an up-to-date overview of all plant passport-compulsory products that have produced, have purchased or have sent to others.
- Keep relevant documents relating to the two previous items for at least one year.
- Have a contact person with knowledge of cultivation and crop protection.
- Regularly perform plant-related observations.

The NakTuinbouw registration number of Van den Berk Nurseries is 20312.

Phytosanitary inspection
The inspectors of NakTuinbouw carry out phytosanitary inspections at registered production and trading companies who intend to put plants into circulation and check whether:

- The plants are free of quarantine and quarantine-worthy organisms that have not been detected before.
- The plants meet the requirements as described in the register 'Specific requirements for plant passport obliged plants'.
- Plant passport obligated products have been grown on a plot that has been checked to be free

from Potato Fatigue (AM) (declaration needed).
- The products have been grown on a plot for which no cultivation prohibitions imposed by the NVWA apply.
- There are any special requirements that apply to certain products, organisms and, if applicable, certain protected areas.

Only if material is completely free **(zero-norm!)** from quarantine organisms, and all above mentioned requirements are met, a plant passport will be issued by NAKTuinbouw.
Of course **Van den Berk Nurseries delivers all plants on the list with the required plant passports.**

5. Strategic plant health care maintenance

Knowledge
To maintain our nursery we have a highly skilled team of nursery men. A lot of them have over 20 years of experience in the nursery field. The team is working under conduction of our production manager who works at Van den Berk for more than 40 years. He is a source of information for many people, which makes sense as his vast experience has taught him how trees behave and develop over a long period of time. This knowledge is of big value because some properties of trees will only show after many years. The production manager is supported by four assistant managers and he coaches his staff continuously.

Soil quality & epidemic ''free'' growth
To make sure that we grow healthy, good quality plants we take the following measurements:

- Each new field is tested on potato pest (AM) and verticillium before we plant a single tree.
- We lay drainage in the new fields for a good hydrology.
- After that we grow green fertiliser (mostly Japanese oat) for one season. In this season we test the soil minerals and, according to the test results, we fertilize the fields. This fertilizing is only done with biological manure/litter.
- We take soil tests for the PH and mineral status every year. With these results we determine the amount of fertilizer if necessary. In this way we ensure the optimum conditions for healthy plant growth.
- This epidemic ''free'' growth is achieved by a strategic treatment plan.
    - April: Chemical weed control soil herbicide
    - May / Sept: In this period 2 time Chemical weed control
    - May / June: OPM + Mildew treatment in oaks
- This is the generals strategic treatment plan. Our production manager makes adjustments if necessary, based on inspections, weather, experience. During the growing season a visual inspection on insecticides and fungicides is carried out by the production manager and his assistant every two weeks.
- Every growing season the nursery is also visited and advised by independent nursery- and plant health advisors.

Extra quality plus system
At Van den Berk we are ambitious and progressive. We continuously work to raise the quality to a higher level than the official regulations dictate. This is why we have an extra quality plus system in our nursery, called SELECTPLANT.

The most stringent standards of SELECTPLANT guarantee top quality and excellent health of the propagating material. Because of the Quality Plus System, **NAKTuinbouw inspects our nursery more often on our request,** to double check varietal trueness, varietal purity, origin, health (free of viruses, fungi, bacteria or nematodes) and quality. Laboratory tests are frequently made to secure the highest possible level of plant material.
For more information about the SELECT PLANT, please go to:
www.naktuinbouw.com/arboriculture/inspections/quality-plus-systemnaktuinbouw-select-plant
Attachment 1. shows how we comply with the regulations of SELECT PLANT.

6. Suppliers management

At van den Berk we have a very strict Supplier Management System. We check or suppliers all year by visits at their locations and inspection of purchased goods at our location. During the visits that our purchasing department pay to suppliers, visit reports are made and the information is imported into our internal computer system. These reports contain an **assessment of our suppliers.** Based on the score from this assessment, suppliers are divided into groups. A supplier of plant material can be classified in group 1 to 3. Group 1 are the A-suppliers that have a high score on all the points that have been assessed. Group 2 are the B-suppliers, that score on one part below the desired level. Group 3 are other companies that score insufficiently on several points. We buy mostly at A-suppliers and in specific cases at B-supplier, depending on the requirements and availability. We do not purchase at companies ranked in group 3.
Bad delivery behaviour of suppliers is monitored through a complaints registration. In the management review, the Quality Manager annually summarizes the performance of the key suppliers. This summary is input for the final assessment and the selection for future supplies.

7. Control of incoming and outgoing plant

As you will understand from the above we are doing everything to avoid that plants from third parties will affect our high quality level. To prevent the mixing of poor plant material with our and our customers high quality, healthy plants, all the plant material that enters or leaves the nursery is being checked. **The warehouse manager inspects all plants.** In the absence of the warehouse manager, the production manager or one if his assistants will carry out checks. To keep the knowledge up to date and to recognize the species the staff is annually trained by courses. All inspectors are familiar with the checking points. A full list of these points can be found in Attachment 2. Instruction for incoming- and outgoing plant control.

8. Xylella protocol

Xylella fastidiosa is one of the most dangerous plant bacteria worldwide, causing a variety of diseases, with huge economic impact for agriculture, public gardens and the environment. Van den Berk Nurseries is not located in one of the critical areas. **Our region is free of the caused diseases** and we have a very strict protocol to avoid the purchasing of plants infected by Xylella bacterium. We pay extra attention to

hygiene and control and we follow the developments closely to be able to respond immediately if necessary. The full protocol can be found in Attachment 3.

9. Fire blight buffer zones

The Dutch regulations provide for measures to prevent the spread of fire blight in the Netherlands in certain areas (buffer zones). These buffer zones are legally established. Within this, the control of fire blight is mandatory and the planting of a number of plants sensitive to fire blight, such as wild hawthorn (Crataegus), is prohibited. Companies with plots located in a buffer zone may qualify for a plant passport with ZP-b2 coding. The code ZP-b2 makes it possible to trade the host plants of fire blight throughout the EU, also to the so-called protected areas. Van den Berk Nurseries is one of these companies**.**
We are located in a buffer zone and can deliver our trees with a ZPb2 passport.

10. Potato pest free plants

Tree nursery products are not included in the Potato Pest Control Directive of the European Community. The requirements for the availability of a research declaration on Potato Pest do not apply to these plants. Trees may be grown on any plot in the EU, as far as potato pest is concerned. However, the Netherlands does make demands.
The regulation 'Bestrijding schadelijke organismen' (Control harmful organisms) requires that cultivation in the Netherlands must take place on potato pest free plots or within potato-growing prohibition areas. The plant material used for the cultivation must also come from plots that are free from potato pest or have grown in one of the potato cultivation prohibition areas. This approach means that **all tree nursery products with Dutch origin are free of potato pest.** At Van den Berk we always do a potato pest (and verticillium) test before we plant a single tree on a new field!

11. Oak processionary free oaks

The oak is always plant passport obligatory, but additional measures are taken for export to the United Kingdom and Ireland. A batch or individual trees must be 100% free from oak processionary caterpillar. This applies to oaks that are larger than two meters.
At Van den Berk we achieve this by treating all oaks with a bactericidal agent in spring; once at the end of May and again in the mid of June. After that our staff carries out a visual inspection. If a nest is unexpectedly found, it will be burnt down. Afterwards NAKTuinbouw takes over the controls. The inspector checks the plots between June 1 and November 1 on the presence of eggs and / or caterpillars of the oak processional caterpillar. Also the 50 meters around the plots are checked. If no eggs and / or caterpillars are found, a plot is approved.
In addition, all oaks destined to the United Kingdom and Ireland are inspected before transportation by a NAKTuinbouw inspector on eggs and / or caterpillars. Only after the approval of the inspector (0-tolerance) the trees can be transported and delivered to the customer.
We supply all our oaks with a plant passport with code ZP-a16 (Oak processionary free).

12. Anoplophora protocol

The Asian long-horned beetle (Anoplophora glabripennis) and the Citrus long-horned beetle (Anoplophora chinensis) can cause great damage to trees and therefore are quarantine pests for Europe. These insects are native to the Far-East and abundant in China and Korea. During the last decade the importation of large amounts of untreated or inappropriately treated wooden packing material containing living larval stages of pests, led to accidental introduction at some places in North America and in Europe.

Since 2012 and 2015 emergency measures have been implemented in the EU. By introducing special requirements for the import of wood, wooden packaging materials and plants originating from countries where these long-horned beetles occur, further introduction and dissemination is prevented. The NVWA (The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority) keeps close supervision to safeguard the Netherlands from the harmful insects. It supervises compliance with the rules and continuously carries out thorough inspections, even if the goods are provided with the required certificates. For example, the NVWA checks all Chinese packaging timber for traces of the long-horn beetles. Host plants from countries where the two long-horn beetles is native may only be imported in the Netherlands if they are accompanied by additional declarations. **Since 2012 no outbreak has occurred in the Netherlands.**

Should Anoplophora be found somewhere, the NVWA will take drastic measures. These include, among other things, that affected plants must be destroyed and a buffer zone will be set up for 4 years after the last discovery of an Asian long-horned beetle or a Citrus long- horned beetle in that area. Host plants from this buffer zone may only be traded under special conditions as dictated by the EU legislation.

At Van den Berk Nurseries we will take no risks at all and want to avoid this situation in every possible way. For that reason we have taken additional measures ourselves, to prevent the emerge of these long-horn beetles in our nursery. We use a protocol : please see Attachment 4.

To see the host plants please go the EPPO website:
https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ANOLGL/hosts and https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ANOLCN/hosts

13. ISO 9001 and 14001

ISO is an independent, non-governmental international organization with a membership of 161 national standards bodies. Through its members, it brings together experts to share knowledge and develop voluntary, consensus-based, market relevant International Standards that support innovation and provide olutions to global challenges. Van den Berk Nurseries is certified for ISO 9001:2015 and 14001:2015

Quality management
ISO 9001:2015 sets out the criteria for a quality management system and is the international standard. It can be used by any organization, large or small, regardless of its field of activity. The standard is based on a number of quality management principles including a strong customer focus, the motivation and implication of top management, the process approach and continual improvement. ISO 9001:2015 ensures customers to get consistent, good quality products and services.

Environmental management
ISO 14001:2015 sets out the criteria for an environmental management system. It maps out a framework

that a company or organization can follow to set up an effective environmental management system. It can be used by any organization regardless of its activity or sector. ISO 14001:2015 provides assurance to company management and employees as well as external stakeholders that environmental impact is being measured and improved.

14. Sustainable production

Trees are a living product and a healthy, sustainable production can only be maintained whenever they are cultivated in good harmony with nature. For a long time, Van den Berk has valued the sustainable and environmental production of trees. We have minimized the use of crop protection products per hectare and now have one of the lowest consumption figures per hectare. This gives more room to both flora and fauna. The plots are characterized by a rich insect life and offer nesting and feeding opportunities for many types of birds and other animals. Below you can read how we interpret these durable production goals within the company by implementing environmental measures.

- **Soil:**
  In between harvests, we sow a green manure, such as Japanese oats, for one growing season to enhance the soil structure.
- The plots are almost exclusively fertilized using organic deep litter manure from cows and goats or compost.
- All prunings are shredded and partly worked into the soil to create a good organic substance content. The decomposition of the shredded wood binds the nitrogen in the soil, which then does not get washed away. The nitrogen is released later and more slowly and is gradually absorbed by the trees.

Cultivation:

- All trees are planted with sufficient space in between. This gives them the best opportunity to develop and makes it possible to sow grass in between the trees, which creates a good living environment for different types of insects and other animals.
- The presence of insects means that there are many natural enemies in between the trees; this creates a natural balance which minimizes the chance of pests, which again means less pesticides are necessary.
- Any pests that do occur, are controlled extremely selectively, which means that less pesticides are used than before.
- In places where grass is sown, there are few weeds; no weed killers are necessary, which reduces the environmental impact.
- The strip of land alongside ditches is not sprayed.

Materials:

- The digging and packing of the trees happens with natural materials like jute and coconut. These are biodegradable and therefore not polluting the environment.
- All waste is separated and all paper is collected for recycling.

Environment:

- To ensure the nursery fits in with the environment we have created a number of special areas, with e.g. windbreaks, pollard willows, toad pools, and wild flowers.
- The plots are all diversified, with varied plantings.

Quality mark
Although our measures go beyond**,** we also work under the environmental mark GROENKEUR. Companies cultivating Groenkeur certificated tree nursery products give special attention to sustainability and biodiversity. They pay attention to the protection of the environment (water, soil and air) through a limited use of plant protection products and fertilizers. Another important requirement of Groenkeur: the **genetic quality of the planting material is always known** to the growers. Groenkeur growers make assure that working conditions are sound and that all certified **products can be traced back to the growing plot.**
Unfortunately the website is only in Dutch: www.groenkeur.nl

15. Horticulture Business Award

In 2009 Van den Berk Nurseries received the Horticultural Business Award from Minister Gerda Verburg (Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality). In her speech the Minister stated that, 'The prize winner is a shining example in the horticultural industry, which itself is a leader in innovation, energy conservation and sustainability, as well as a sturdy cornerstone of the Dutch economy.' The prize was presented during the New Year Joint Exhibition organised by the Product Board for Horticulture and the Horticultural Business Prize Foundation. Van den Berk Nurseries was proposed by Anthos, the Royal Trade Association for Nursery Stock and Flower Bulbs.

jury's report
The jury's report stated that Van den Berk Nurseries 'takes the lead in product innovation and sustainable production in the field of arboriculture. The company is a pioneer with its innovative mechanisation, personnel management, logistics and approach to the (international) market. **It is an ambassador for the industry as a whole'.**

Attachment 1.

Internal and Field inspections

This procedure description is made to indicate how we meet the requirements of Article 4 of the certification regulations of SELECTPLANT. It indicates how our stock control and cultivation control procedure is organised.

Step 1 **buying plant material** responsible: buying department

All year round the purchasing department visits a lot different suppliers. Based on the suppliers reviews a purchase plan is made. Subjects as rootstocks, SELECTPLANT and origins are recorded in the purchase order to the supplier.

Step 2 **call for delivery of purchased plants** responsible: logistic department

In winter season, the logistics employees call for delivery of the purchased plants. Once the plants arrive at Van den Berk, they will be ensiled in the stock place. The stock place is divide into blocks (A tm K) and these blocks are subdivided into boxes (1 to 10). This enables us to record the stock locations very precisely.

Step 3 **receipt of plants** responsible: warehouse manager

As soon as the plants have been placed in the stock place, they will be inspected by the warehouse manager on quality. The numbers and sizes are also checked.

Step 4 **administration of plants** responsible: logistic department

Once the plants have been approved, the correct stock location will be administrated in the internal computer system. In the system you can always see who has done stock mutations and when these have been done. All stock movements are also administrated per location.

Step 5 **administration of plants** responsible: production manager

According to the planting scheme plants from the stock place are planted on the basis of a nursery plot. The plants are transferred simultaneously to the new plot location in the internal computer system. The transfer information will be kept with the plants, recording date and origin.

Step 6 **physical visibility** responsible: production manager

In summer, signs with the generic name are attached to the trees at the plots with new planting. These signs are fastened to the first plant of a species. The signs are durable and clearly visible and contain the Latin name of the trees. The fastening is done by the production manager.

Step 7 **all year monitoring** responsible: production manager

Throughout the year, the plots are frequently visited and checked by the production manager and the team managers. If deviations are found, they will be corrected in the field and at the same time in the administration of the computer system. Fertilization, crop protection and destruction registration are always digitally determined with quantities, date, location and executing persons.

Step 8 **summer count** responsible: logistic department

Once the species name signs are attached to the plants, the summer count is made. All trees are counted and row numbers are noted. Any corrections to the numbers are updated in the computer system and the row numbers are also included in the system.

Step 9 **autumn count** responsible: logistic department

In autumn all plants in the nursery that are included in the sellable stock are measured and also the quality is assessed. The computer system is updated with the results of this recording

Attachment 2.

Instruction for incoming- and outgoing plant control

All plant material that enters or leaves the nursery must be checked. It can concern plants on carts, in the shed, on semi-trailers (purchase), on pallets or in the stock place. The warehouse manager has to inspected all plants before they go into the nursery fields or before they leave our location. In the absence of the warehouse manager the production manager, the head of logistics or a senior all-round employee have to carry out these checks. They all have to be familiar with the checkpoints below. The production manager is responsible that the checks are carried out.

Plants must be checked on the following points:

1. **General quality:**
   shape of the tree; check whether it is right and has a good developed crown: well branched on all sides and without heavy branches in the crown. For shrubs check density of branches. The category 'small plants' on pallets must be sample-wise checked.

2. **Species:**
   check if the tree is right of origin; control on the species.

3. **Sizes and number:**
   check if these are in accordance with the order of the customer (or with Van den Berk's purchase order). Check width, height and / or trunk circumference.

4. **Damage:**
   check especially on broken branches, broken bark, old wounds and bad root balls.

5. **Root ball quality:**
   most of the times you can see if a tree has or has not been replanted by its root ball. The root ball of a frequently replanted tree is firm (good quality) because of many small roots. A root ball with a few large roots falls easily apart. In the case of plants in container / trays (cultivation pots), rooting must be examined too. If they are firmly in the pot, they are well rooted. This has to be checked by feeling the plant and the container. This can also be used as a measure check. Check if the plant is not too small for the size of its container (container filled up with potting soil).

6. **Diseases and pests:**
   Plants must be inspected for diseases and pests (eg, aphids and fungi like mildew, sooty). Symptoms as shiny leaf, dark needles, dirty strain, whiteness inside the plant can indicate diseases.

Boomkwekerij Gebr. Van den Berk B.V.
01.01.2015

Attachment 3.

Xylella fastidiosa -
purchasing, hygiene and control protocol

Reason:
Following the Xylella outbreak in the spring of 2015 in the heel of Italy and two outbreaks in France, this protocol was drawn up in 2015. In the meantime there have been more outbreaks in, among others, Germany and Spain. By means of this protocol we want to clarify and secure the way we have to deal with imports from Italy and other areas where Xylella occurs or possibly occur. We will work according to this protocol as long as the situation in Italy remains the same or until the moment we receive other instruction from the management.
Since a Xylella outbreak in the immediate vicinity of a tree nursery involves very serious and stifling measures, it is important that we are well aware of the risks and that we do all we can to minimize these.

Awareness:
In order to become aware of the risks as a company, we have made a following steps. On July 2015 there was a meeting in Den Bosch organised by Dutch Federation of Agriculture and Horticulture about Xylella. Specialists clearly explained what the disease is and what the consequences are. As a result of this meeting, a workshop entitled 'Fight Xylella with industrial hygiene management' was organized by Van den Berk in September 2015 and carried out by the NAKTuinbouw. The management and 14 employees of production department, purchase department, logistics department, front workers and inspectors of our company participated.
Through the links below you can find information about the current status of Xylella:

European committee
http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/legislation/emergency_measures_en
EPPO (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization)
http://www.eppo.int/QUARANTINE/special_topics/Xylella_fastidiosa/Xylella_fastidiosa.htm
NVWA (The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority)
https://www.nvwa.nl/onderwerpen/xylella-fastidiosa

Protocol for purchase and handling goods from infected countries

Purchase:

1. We preferably do not purchase plants in contaminated countries, if we do need to buy in such a country it will be from an area within this country far away from the infected area and preferably not from an area with a lot of trade going on.

2. A grower that we want to buy plants from has to sign a private supplier's declaration in advance, stating that the plants come exclusively from the relevant nursery and / or tree-growing

region and that these are free from Xylella. By means of these declarations it is guaranteed that growers do not deliver merchandise from contaminated areas. These statements are recorded administratively.

3. All plants listed on the list HOST PLANTS FOUND TO BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO XYLELLA FASTIDIOSA in the UNION TERRITORY must have a plant passport.

4. No items from the list HOST PLANTS FOUND TO BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO XYLELLA FASTIDIOSA IN THE UNION TERRITORY will be purchased in contaminated areas. If we do need to buy these plants it will be bought from an area far away from the infected area, and certainly not from areas with a lot of trade.

   To see the list HOST PLANTS FOUND TO BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO XYLELLA FASTIDIOSA IN THE UNION TERRITORY please go to:
   http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/legislation/emergency_measures/xylella-fastidiosa/susceptible_en

Production and warehouse:

1. All incoming plants from actually contaminated countries will have an extra inspection on arrival and at entrance.

2. The plants from countries where Xylella prevails are put aside from other plants in our 'Quarantine area' of the stock place. When planting these trees will be kept together, as much as possible, at the same plot. The first year after planting, the plants are subject to strict internal control and a tightened crop protection regime. A record of all inspections has to be kept.

Attachment 4.

Anoplophora - purchasing, hygiene and control protocol

Boomkwekerij Gebr. Van den Berk B.V.

19-02-2018 (version 2)

Reason:

Asian longhorn beetle, Anoplophora glabripennis, is a serious invasive pest that is found in East Asia. Asian longhorn beetles and the closely related Citrus longhorn beetle, Anoplophora chinensis, can infest a very wide range of broadleaved trees and would be a major threat to horticulture and the wider environment if they became established. Larvae of the beetles cause the most significant damage by feeding undetected on the inside of a host. In addition to the direct damage from the pest it can also leave a host weakened and susceptible to further pest and disease damage.

Movement out of its native range is often associated with international trade. Trees that contain the beetle are cut down and processed into wooden pallets without killing the larvae. If those pallets are not then properly heat treated, or additional untreated infested wood is subsequently added to secure a cargo in transit, ALB can emerge and attack nearby trees at their destination. The beetle has been introduced to Europe and North America with the movement of wooden pallets, particularly those used to ship stone from China which originates from a region where the pest is very common.

Protocol for purchase and handling goods from countries with an outbreak:

Purchase:

1. We preferably do not purchase plants in countries that suffer from an outbreak, if we do need to buy in such a country it will be from an area within this country far away from the infected area and preferably not from an area with a lot of trade going on.
2. A grower that we want to buy plants from has to sign a private supplier's declaration in advance, stating that the plants come exclusively from the relevant nursery and / or tree-growing region and that these are free from Anoplophora. By means of these declarations it is guaranteed that growers do not deliver merchandise from infected areas. These statements are recorded administratively.

Production and warehouse:

1. All incoming plants from countries that suffer from an outbreak will have an extra inspection on arrival and at entrance.
2. The plants from countries where the beetles appear are put aside from other plants in our ‘Quarantine area’ of the stock place. When planting these trees will be kept together, as much as possible, at the same plot. The first year after planting, the plants are subject to strict internal control and a tightened crop protection regime. A record of all inspections has to be kept.