

Plantwise Policy on the Use of Plant Clinic Data

As part of the provision of advice to farmers, the Plantwise knowledge bank offers the facility for partner organisations to enter, collate and analyse information collected at plant clinics. CABI recognises the value of scientific data but also the potential sensitivity of some of this information and so has created two sections of the knowledge bank, one that is access-controlled and one open-access. Use of data in both the access-controlled and open-access sections is governed by signed data sharing agreements with partners and governments.

Within the access-controlled section, only selected employees from partner organisations, relevant in-country government bodies and CABI will be able to view the material deposited. The relevant partners, such as the NPPO, will be able to correct, analyse and use the data for their own purposes and CABI would delete and remove the data at their request. CABI will ensure that all reasonable administrative, technical and physical safeguards are taken to protect the supplied data from misuse, loss or any unauthorised access, use, modification or disclosure.

CABI will only use data in this access-controlled section to:

- Support quality control of the clinics;
- Work with partners to validate, analyse and manage data;
- Prepare analyses and reports for donors or in-country government bodies;
- Demonstrate the value of the Plantwise programme to existing and potential partners within the country e.g. through PowerPoint presentations;
- Undertake research for the improvement of the KB and associated offering;
- Prepare generalised reports where any data used cannot be identified as coming from a specific country.

In the open-access section of the knowledge bank, CABI, in agreement with the relevant authority in the country (typically the NPPO), makes data collected from plant clinics freely available for research, teaching, and for wider exploitation for the public good, by individuals, government, business and other organisations.

Use of the data can then be enhanced through:

- Integration with global data collected by CABI and a wide variety of partners;
- Better analysis and use in modelling processes for improved pest management;
- Access to all the KB's wide range of expert users concerned with pest crop management but with the full protection of CABI's established policy on "Intellectual Property Rights in the Plantwise knowledge bank" (covering, for example, rights of the originator, free access and CABI's obligation for long-term maintenance).

CABI believes that this sharing of information will improve crop pest monitoring and surveillance as well as enhance the outreach, relevance and quality of agricultural extension and will help build an integrated plant health system. This in turn will assist in trade facilitation, promote plant protection and biosecurity, and improve food security.

Any investigations of changes in pest status that may be initiated from data collection at plant clinics will be governed by the Plantwise Policy Statement on Pest Reports. Plantwise will support the NPPO to fulfil its responsibility to report new pests through the official IPPC contact point, following the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures on determining the pest status in an area and on pest reporting⁴.

4. International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 8: 1998 (*Determination of pest status in an area*)

