
Plant Quarantine & Phytosanitary Control

Stopping pests and disease at the gate — before they ever reach your collection



QUARANTINE · PHYTOSANITARY · TRAINING · OPERATIONS

Prepared for: [Facility Management Company]

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The Challenge: Every New Plant Is a Risk

A botanical garden is defined by what it brings in — rare species, exchanges, seed, and specimens from around the world. That same diversity is its greatest vulnerability. Every consignment that arrives is a potential carrier.

The threats are rarely obvious at the gate:

- Pests travel inside healthy-looking plants. A specimen can look perfect and still carry eggs, larvae, or early-stage infection.
- Soil and growing media hide nematodes, fungal spores, weed seed, and insect pupae — invisible to the eye.
- Hitchhikers arrive in containers and packaging — snails under pot rims, borers in untreated wood.
- Official clearance is not enough. Customs inspection is a snapshot; it cannot detect what has not yet emerged.
- One infected plant is all it takes. Once a pest establishes in a living collection, eradication is slow, costly, and sometimes impossible.

And unlike a farm, a garden cannot simply replant. A lost specimen may represent decades of cultivation — or a species no longer available anywhere.

Quarantine is the cheapest insurance a botanical garden can buy. A few weeks of holding and inspection prevents years of irreversible loss.

Our Approach: An Arrivals Hall for Plants

ASFAN builds phytosanitary quarantine systems that treat incoming plant material the way an airport treats arriving passengers — nothing enters unchecked. Every consignment is received, documented, inspected, isolated, and only then released.

The Quarantine Workflow

1	Pre-Arrival Permits and phytosanitary certificates verified, risk assessed, and quarantine space prepared before material arrives.
2	Receive Delivery taken at a controlled point — never straight into the collection — with documents checked against the material.
3	Inspect Systematic examination of leaves, stems, roots, growing media, containers, and packaging — not just the plant.
4	Isolate & Hold Material held in a dedicated quarantine area and monitored across a set period, so hidden pests reveal themselves.
5	Decide Pass, treat, reject, or destroy — with every decision documented and traceable.

Designed to Contain

A quarantine area only works if pests cannot leak out of it. We design for containment from the ground up.

Physical Separation	Isolated from the main collection by distance, screening, or a dedicated structure.
Clean / Dirty Zoning	One-way flow of people, tools, and material — so nothing travels back toward the collection.
Contained Drainage	Water and run-off directed away from healthy plants — water is a pathogen pathway.
Hygiene Stations	Footbaths, hand-wash, and tool disinfection at every entry and exit point.

What We Deliver

Quarantine Facility Design Layout, zoning, drainage, and hygiene stations for a containment area that actually contains.	Phytosanitary Protocols Written, followable SOPs for receiving, inspection, holding periods, and release decisions.
Document & Permit Compliance Verification of import permits and phytosanitary certificates, aligned to MEWA requirements.	Inspection Systems Structured inspection checklists, hand-lens technique, and sampling procedures.
Diagnosis & Escalation Identification of suspect finds, laboratory referral, and regulated-pest notification pathways.	Audit & Traceability Arrival logs, inspection records, and decision trails — ready for regulatory inspection.

The Rules We Work To

Our protocols translate international and national plant-health standards into daily practice.

- IPPC and the ISPMs — the global phytosanitary standards, including ISPM 15 (wood packaging) and ISPM 36 (plants for planting).
- MEWA — Saudi Arabia's national plant protection authority: import permits, certificates, and the regulated pest list.
- BGCI and IUCN — botanical garden and conservation best practice for living collections.
- CITES — trade controls for protected and endangered species.

Official clearance at the border does not replace garden quarantine. We build the second layer of protection — the one that catches what the first one misses.

Training Your Teams

A quarantine protocol only protects the collection if the person receiving the plant follows it. ASFAN runs structured, role-based training — on-site, in English and Arabic.

Field Workers & Gardeners Correct receiving, systematic inspection technique, hygiene discipline, and — above all — when to stop and report.	Supervisors & Team Leaders Running the quarantine area, verifying documents, managing holding periods, keeping records, and escalating finds.
Engineers & Agronomists Pest diagnosis, treatment decisions, protocol design, laboratory referral, and audit preparation.	Facility & Operations Management Governance, regulatory liaison, compliance reporting, and resourcing the quarantine function.

Delivered as a five-part course with hands-on practical sessions, immersive VR modules, visual bilingual SOPs, competency assessment, and certification — with a training matrix maintained for audit.

The Habit That Protects Everything

Always	Never
• Receive at a controlled point, never in the collection • Inspect the pot, soil, and packaging — not just leaves • Hold for the full period, however healthy it looks • Isolate and report anything unusual, immediately • Record every decision with its reason	• Release early because it “looks fine” • Skip inspection because the source is trusted • Move new material through clean areas • Use the same tools without disinfecting • Treat a suspected regulated pest quietly

How We Work With You

1	Assess Site visit and gap assessment: how material currently arrives, where it goes, and where the containment gaps are.
2	Design A quarantine facility layout and phytosanitary protocol tailored to your volumes, sources, and collection.
3	Train Role-based training for your laborers, supervisors, engineers, and management — with certification.
4	Operate & Sustain Embedded operational support, ongoing auditing, and continuous improvement until your team runs it alone.

Why ASFAN

- Specialist plant-health and biosecurity expertise — led by qualified agronomists and researchers.
- Quarantine designed as the first pillar of a complete biosecurity programme, integrated with pest management and waste control.
- Training and operations, not just advice — we build the capability inside your team.
- Aligned to IPPC/ISPM standards, BGCI and IUCN best practice, and KSA regulatory requirements.
- Amman-based, with regional experience across Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

Protect the Collection at the Gate.

Start with a no-obligation site assessment. We will review how plant material currently enters your garden, identify the containment gaps, and propose a phased quarantine programme.

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