

HORTICERT CERTIFICATION SUPPORTS COMPLIANCE WITH EUDR

WHAT IS EUDR?

The European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) is a legal framework introduced by the European Union to combat deforestation and forest degradation linked to the production and consumption of certain commodities. It requires companies that place certain goods on the EU market, such as palm oil, soy, coffee, cocoa, beef, and wood, to ensure these products are not linked to deforestation or forest degradation anywhere in the world. Companies, which place the product on the EU market for the first time, must provide proof of due diligence, demonstrating that their supply chains are free from deforestation and that the products comply with relevant laws in the country of origin.

The EUDR also mandates geolocation data to trace the origin of commodities, enhancing transparency and accountability. By enforcing these measures, the EUDR aims to reduce the EU's contribution to global deforestation and encourage more sustainable supply chains.

Peat substitutes, such as wood-based products, fall under the scope of EUDR.* However, operators sourcing products entirely from areas classified as low risk by the EU will be subject to **simplified due diligence obligations**.

HOW DOES HORTICERT SUPPORT COMPANIES WITH EUDR COMPLIANCE?

Even though certification does not provide a green lane for compliance, it is mentioned in the Regulation as a helpful tool for companies to use in their individual assessments. In addition, third-party certification supports the implementation of **risk mitigation** measures.

By obtaining a HORTICERT certification, companies can demonstrate their commitment to meeting a wide range of social, environmental, and economic requirements. HORTICERT's robust **traceability** system covers the entire supply chain from raw material production to the final product.

Together with our partner organization GRAS Global Risk Assessment Services GmbH (GRAS), HORTICERT provides **digital solutions** designed to help companies meet the requirements of the EUDR, such as the EUDRx platform. This tool enables secure data storage for up to five years while also conducting analyses and generating comprehensive reports that outline the results of the risk assessment and the implementation of risk mitigation measures. Additionally, the platform facilitates streamlined submission of Due Diligence statements to the EU TRACES database.

*Among others, some of the most common wood-based products used as peat substitutes (that are included in Annex 1 of the EUDR) are wood fibers and bark.



BENEFITS OF HORTICERT CERTIFICATION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH EUDR

CONDUCT RISK ASSESSMENT (ART 10)



HORTICERT with its partner GRAS supports to:

- Establish an internal Due Diligence Management System in line with Art. 8
- Conduct in-depth deforestation and forest degradation analysis based on remote sensing data (*EUDRx platform*)
- Gather and record evidence to confirm legality
- Conduct an abstract risk analysis of key environmental and human rights risks
- Establish procedures for complementing country-level analysis with suppliers' risk assessments

Operators sourcing from low risk areas will need to collect the information as mentioned in Art 9. However, they will not be required to assess and mitigate risks (Art 10 and 11) unless the operator obtains or is made aware of any relevant information, including substantiated concerns, that would point to a risk that the relevant products do not comply with the EUDR.

YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION ON



WWW.GRAS-SYSTEM.ORG



WWW.HORTICERT.ORG
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HORTICERT

IMPLEMENT RISK MITIGATION (ART 11)



HORTICERT

- Provides the basis for risk mitigation through regular audits as well as continuous monitoring and reporting
- Can be used by operators and traders as a robust and credible source of evidence for risk mitigation measures

