

Covid – 19 updates

We continue to be fully operational and are taking the necessary steps to protect all our staff and customers.

If you have placed an order, we will either

- Text you before we are due to make the delivery
- Call you to let you know that we will be making your delivery

We are working hard to fulfil all our orders and will continue to do so for as long as we are able.

Miscanthus Nursery Ltd recognises that we are operating in an unprecedented situation. In the light of Covid-19 and efforts around the world to control its spread we are informing you about the measures that we are putting in place. Our priority is to look after our employees and customers. The company recognises that it must protect the elderly and most vulnerable members of our community. This communication outlines what we are doing at present to protect such people and how we will operate moving forward.

The Management of Miscanthus Nursery Ltd has been regularly monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak and the advice given by the government. We are focussed primarily on protecting the safety of our staff, customers and transport staff whilst at the same time building continuity plans to ensure the continued delivery of our Rhizome.

Miscanthus Nursery drivers have been briefed to take measures that seek to minimise the risk of catching and spreading the Covid-19 virus. In doing so we have asked our drivers to practice “distancing” at the point of delivery. This means that our drivers will limit their contact, aiming always to keep a safe distance away from the customer. We have also issued them with an NFU Essential Journey Certificate in line with government legislation.

Planting Machinery and Rhizome deliveries

At this current time, we ask that our growers and contractors continue with the Miscanthus harvest and planting in the normal way, avoiding personal contact as much as possible in line with the government guidelines

Where possible, disposable gloves should be used/changed frequently between different tasks.

Drivers are always to stay in their cabs, unless asked to leave for health & safety reasons applied by processors/growers

Only the driver should handle the securing straps

Drivers will be asked to sign any delivery paperwork on behalf of the customer in order to limit physical contact.

Growers must provide a telescopic handler for lifting the machinery, and a certified operator for safely unloading and loading of the planter on or off the delivery trailer in line with Health and Safety.

Miscanthus Nursery have available three types of Planter available for hire. All planters will require a telescopic handler to load the Rhizome into the hopper.

1. Fully Automatic – This is only operated by Miscanthus Nursery operatives only.
2. Manual Four row planter (for planting 15 acres plus only) this machine requires 2 operatives with seating 2m apart.
3. Manual Two row comes with 3 seats giving the option for one or two persons to plant.

Growers may consider using family members where possible instead of hiring in agency staff. Where agency staff are required, only 2 persons on the 4-row planter and one person on the 2-row planter will be permitted in order to adhere to the 2m apart rule set by the government.

As previously stated, hand hygiene must be adhered to, i.e. washing hands for 20 seconds with soap and water or hand sanitizers, regularly

Using disposable tissues to catch coughs and sneezes and disposing of them in a bin as soon as possible

Most importantly – KEEP YOUR DISTANCE – if you do need to speak to someone in person, please always stay at least 2m/6ft apart.

Inevitably, the COVID-19 pandemic will influence our normal business operations, but we will continue to make decisions based on government advice.