



Supporting
biodiversity at home*

Kingfisher

Fact sheet: Plants



What it means to choose a Green Star product
Products marked with the Green Star are designed to help customers identify items within our ranges with a focus on reducing environmental impacts. Customers can use the information provided to filter and understand more about the products they're interested in or have purchased.

Why growing plants in our outdoor spaces matters

The Royal Horticultural Society have found that over [4.5 million front gardens in Britain have no plants at all](#) and that over a quarter have been paved over. [There is increasing evidence](#) that adding plants to our gardens and outdoor spaces can help to improve air quality, address flooding and manage temperatures.

Green Star focuses on plants that address two key issues:

- Growing our own food.
 - Being able to grow even a little produce can help to connect us to how our food is produced.
 - Growing food gives customers control over whether to use chemicals and access to fresh produce with less packaging and transport needed.
- Supporting wildlife.
 - Bees, butterflies and other wildlife can thrive in gardens, especially if they can access plants that provide them with food or shelter.

Criteria 1:

How we assess Green Star products

Every product should meet:

- All relevant legal requirements**
- All Kingfisher policy requirements**

[You can access the Kingfisher policies here.](#) These include Human Rights, Supply Chain Workplace Standards and Sustainable Packaging.



Products are also checked against a Watch List. The watch list contains several criteria or features, relevant to the product type, that if present disqualify the product from being marked with a green star. The relevant Watch List can be found at the end of this factsheet. The Watch List is reviewed and revised annually.

Life cycle assessments have not been completed for every green star product, but by employing policies and the Watch List Criteria in Kingfisher's Sustainable Home Product Guidelines, many factors in the life cycle of a product are considered.

The green star 'Plants' assessment focuses on the in-use phase of the product's life cycle. This is where the product can bring the biggest benefit to the user across its utilisation, however green star excludes products that may have other environmental aspects that are harmful either as a result of manufacture or end of life disposal.

Criteria 2:

Green star programme entry

The criteria for plants are:

- Plants include seeds, plants, trees and shrubs. The variety of plant should be either:
 - For use to grow produce. This includes herbs, vegetables, fruit and salad leaves.
 - Specified as having a positive impact on wildlife. Kingfisher maintains a list of plants that meet these criteria that is available on request. The list is based on information from expert third parties, including the Royal Horticultural Society (through its [Plants for Pollinators](#) database).

Providing Criteria 1 and 2 have been met, a product can highlighted with the Green Star.

Reviewing and confirming Green Star status

- ✓ All products nominated are assessed internally by our sustainability team and submitted to NGO Bioregional for external validation. Assessments and validation aim to establish if a product meets Criteria 1 and 2. To find out more about NGO Bioregional, [click here](#)
- ✓ Once the external review is conducted, the product can then be confirmed and marked with the Green Star.
- ✓ A full review is conducted annually to ensure all products continue to meet the selection criteria.

Watch List Criteria relevant to plants

These criteria specify features of products that make them unsuitable for Green Star assessment:

- ✗ The product should not contain peat.
- ✗ Products where the packaging contains PVC or expanded polystyrene.
- ✗ Products that contain any wood that does not meet Kingfisher's Forest Positive Policy.
- ✗ Products containing palm oil, cotton, rubber or leather with no evidence that the materials have been responsibly sourced.



- ✘ The plant should not be a variety specified on Kingfisher's problem plant list. This list is available on request and includes non-native invasive species.

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