

FLORIDA

SUMMARY OF PLANT PROTECTION REGULATIONS

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Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer
Services Division of Plant Industry
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The information, as provided, is for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as complete, nor should it be considered legally binding. Coordination with both your state and the destination state plant regulatory agency listed above may be necessary to stay up-to-date on revised requirements.

NURSERY STOCK DEFINITION

All plants, trees, shrubs, vines, bulbs, cuttings, grafts, scions, or buds, grown or kept for or capable of propagation or distribution, unless specifically excluded by the rules of the department.

HOUSEPLANTS

House plants which are part of a passenger's baggage or household effects may enter the state provided the plants are accompanied with a certificate of inspection. Should the plants originate from a state that does not offer an inspection and certification service for house plants, the owner must be able to furnish the department a Florida address where the plants will be located. This information will enable the department to conduct a follow-up inspection if deemed necessary. If sufficient information is given, the plants will be allowed entry.

GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

Any person, nurseryman, stock dealer, agent, or plant broker who desires to ship into this state nursery stock from any state, territory, or district of the United States, shall comply with the following regulations:

The nurseryman, stock dealer, agent or plant broker must be listed in the latest directory of registered or certified nurseries, agents, stock dealers, and plant brokers of the state where such nursery stock originated.

A valid certificate of inspection must be attached to each separate package, bundle, box, or shipment of nursery stock shipped into Florida. In club orders, one tag must be attached to each individual order and another to the package containing the individual orders.

All shipments of plants or plant products entering peninsular Florida by road are required to stop at an agricultural inspection station where they will be screened for proper certification and subject to cargo inspection by the department. All shipments of plants or plant products entering Florida through mail and parcel facilities are subject to inspection and screening for proper certification. Each shipment shall be accompanied with a bill of lading, or other valid documentation which contains the following information:

1. Name and address of shipper or consignor
2. Name and physical address of receiver or consignee
3. Description of plants or plant products in the shipment
4. Place and state/country of origin
5. Ultimate destination of shipment if other than receiver or consignee
6. Additional certification requirements for plant pest freedom for regulated commodities are listed below.
7. All documents shall be in the English Language, or shall have attached an accurate English translation containing adequate information for examination of the product.

SUDDEN OAK DEATH (*Phytophthora ramorum*) HOST NURSERY STOCK NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

Shippers of *Phytophthora ramorum* host nursery stock from regulated areas should send prenotification information of shipments destined to Florida as required by the USDA Federal Order DA-2012-53 effective December 10, 2012. Please refer to the following website for clarification as needed: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/plant-pest-and-disease-programs/pests-and-diseases/phytophthora-ramorum/ct_phytophthora_ramorum_sudden_oak_death. Shipment prenotification information should be sent to Stephen.Hildebrandt@FreshfromFlorida.com or faxed to 352-395-4618.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Definition: Any living stage, including, but not limited to, seeds and productive parts, of a parasitic or other plant of a kind, or subdivision of a kind, which may be a serious agricultural threat in Florida or have a negative impact on the plant species protected under [Statute 581.185](#).

It is unlawful to introduce, possess, move, or release any plant pest or noxious weed regulated by the department and the USDA except under permit issued by the department or the USDA. No permit shall be issued unless the department has determined that procedures exist to adequately contain the plant pest or noxious weed or that it will not pose a threat to the agricultural industry or the environment.

Noxious Weed List.

<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/readFile.asp?sid=0&type=1&tid=3023798&file=5B-57.007.doc>

Parasitic Weeds.

Aeginetia spp. – aeginetia

Alectra spp. – alectra

Cuscuta spp. Only the native Florida species are excluded from this list. These include *C. americana*, *C. compacta*, *C. exaltata*, *C. gronovii*, *C. indecora*, *C. obtusiflora*, *C. pentagona*, *C. umbellata* *Orobanch* spp. – broomrapes

Terrestrial Weeds.

Ageratina adenophora – crofton weed

Alternanthera sessilis – sessile joyweed

Abrus precatorius – rosary pea

Ardisia crenata – coral ardisia

Ardisia elliptica – shoebutton ardisia

Asphodelus fistulosus – onionweed

Avena sterilis – animated oat, wild oat

Borreria alata – broadleaf buttonweed

Carthamus oxyacantha – wild safflower

Casuarina equisetifolia – Australian pine

Casuarina glauca – suckering Australian pine

Chrysopogon aciculatus – pilipiliula

Colubrina asiatica – latherleaf

Commelina benghalensis – Benghal dayflower

Crupina vulgaris – common crupina

Cupaniopsis anacardioides – carrotwood

Digitaria scalarum – African couchgrass, fingergrass

Digitaria velutina – velvet fingergrass, annual couchgrass

Dioscorea alata – white yam

Dioscorea bulbifera – air potato

Drymaria arenarioides – lightning weed

Emex australis – three-corner jack

Emex spinosa – devil's thorn

Euphorbia prunifolia – painted euphorbia

Galega officinalis – goat's rue

Heracleum mantegazzianum – giant hogweed

Imperata brasiliensis – Brazilian satintail

Imperata cylindrica – cogongrass

Ipomoea triloba – little bell, aiea morning glory

Ischaemum rugosum – murainograss

Leptochloa chinensis – Asian sprangletop

Leucaena leucocephala – lead tree

Ligustrum sinense – Chinese privet, except the cultivar 'Variegatum'

Lycium ferocissimum – African boxthorn

Lygodium japonicum – Japanese climbing fern

Lygodium microphyllum – small-leaved climbing fern

Melaleuca quinquenervia – melaleuca

Melastoma malabathricum – Indian rhododendron.
Mikania cordata – mile-a-minute
Mikania micrantha – climbing hempweed
Mimosa invisa – giant sensitive plant
Mimosa pigra – catclaw mimosa
Nassella trichotoma – serrated tussock
Neyraudia reynaudiana – Burma reed
Nymphoides cristata – crested floating heart
Nymphoides peltata – yellow floating heart
Opuntia aurantiaca – jointed prickly pear
Oryza longistaminata – red rice
Oryza punctata – red rice
Oryza rufipogon – wild red rice
Paederia cruddasiana – sewer-vine
Paederia foetida – skunk-vine
Paspalum scrobiculatum – Kodomillet
Pennisetum clandestinum – Kikuyu grass
Pennisetum macrourum – African feathergrass
Pennisetum pedicellatum – Kyasuma grass
Pennisetum polystachyon – missiongrass, thin napiergrass
Prosopis spp.
Pueraria montana – kudzu
Rhodomyrtus tomentosa – downy myrtle
Rottboellia cochinchinensis – itchgrass
Rubus fruticosus – bramble blackberry
Rubus molluccanus – wild raspberry
Saccharum spontaneum – wild sugarcane
Salsola vermiculata – wormleaf salsola
Sapium sebiferum – Chinese tallow tree
Scaevola taccada – beach naupaka
Schinus terebinthifolius – Brazilian pepper-tree
Setaria pallidifusca – cattail grass
Solanum tampicense – wetland nightshade
Solanum torvum – turkeyberry
Solanum viarum – tropical soda apple
Tridax procumbens – coat buttons
Triadica sebifera – Chinese tallow tree
Urochloa panicoides – liverseed grass

Prohibited Aquatic Plants

Alternanthera philoxeroides – alligatorweed, green lead plant
Casuarina spp. – Australian Pine
Crassula helmsii – awamp stone crop
Eichhornia spp. – waterhyacinth
Hydrilla verticillata – hydrilla, Florida elodea, stargrass, oxygen grass
Hygrophila polysperma – hygro

Ipomoea aquatica – water spinach
Ipomoea fistulosa
Lagarosiphon spp. – African elodea
Limnocharis flava – Sawa flowing rush
Lymnophila sessiliflora – ambulia
Lythrum salicaria – purple loosestrife
Melaleuca quinquenervia – melaleuca
Mimosa pigra – giant sensitive plant, cat’s claw
Monochoria hastata
Monochoria vaginalis
Myriophyllum spicatum – Eurasian watermilfoil
Nechamandra alternifolia
Oryza rufipogon – wild Red rice
Pistia stratiotes – waterlettuce
Pontederia rotundifolia – tropical pickerelweed
Salvinia spp., (excluding *S. minima*) *Schinus terebinthifolius* – Brazilian-pepper-tree
Sparganium erectum – Exotic bur-reed
Stratiotes aloides – water-aloe, soldier plant
Trapa spp. – water chestnut
Vossia cuspidate – hippo grass

**QUARANTINES OR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
PLANT PEST OF QUARANTINE SIGNIFICANCE**

PEST: Plant pest not known to occur in the State of Florida or of limited distribution within the state.

STATES REGULATED: All

MATERIALS REGULATED: All plants and plant products

RESTRICTIONS: Plant and plant products found to be infested or infected with, or exposed to a plant pest not known to be established or of limited distribution in the state of Florida and the pest is determined to be potentially damaging to Florida agriculture shall not be allowed to enter Florida.

The following are examples of plant pests that would require immediate quarantine:

INSECTS

Aceria litchii (currently in Hawaii (Litchi mite))
Aleurodicus rugioperculatus (gumbo limbo whitefly)
Anoplophora spp. (Asian longhorned beetles)
Aulacaspis yasumatsui (Asian cycad scale)
Biprorulus bibax (spined orange bug)

Bostrichidae (Bostrichid beetles)
Brevipalpus chilensis (Chilean false red mite)
Ceratovacuna lanigera (sugarcane woolly aphid)
Diaphorina citri (Asian citrus psyllid)
Diaprepes abbreviatus (diaprepes root weevil)
Duponchelia fovealis (European pepper moth)
Eutetranychus orientalis (Oriental red mite)
Exophthalmus spp. (Caribbean citrus weevils)
Liriomyza huidobrensis (pea leaf miner)
Liriomyza langei (pea leaf miner)
Maconellicoccus hirsutus (pink mealybug)
Metamasius callizona (bromeliad weevil)
Metamasius spp. (Neotropical palm and bromeliad weevils)
Metamasius hemipterus (palm and sugarcane weevil)
Morganella longispina (scale insect) (plumose scale)
Musgraveia sulciventris (bronze orange bug)
Myllocerus spp. (Asian weevils)
Myllocerus undecimpustulatus (weevil)
Nasonovia ribisnigri (currant-lettuce aphid)
Nephotettix spp. (Green leafhoppers on rice)
Nilaparvata lugens (brown plant hopper)
Noctua pronuba (large yellow underwing)
Oligonychus persae (avocado mite)
Opuntiaspis spp. (scale insect)
Oxycarenus hyalinipennis (dusky cottonseed bug)
Paratachardina pseudolobata (lobate lac scale)
Parlatoria ziziphi (black parlatoria scale insect)
Phalacrocooccus howertoni (Howerton's scale)
Philephedra spp. (scale insect)
Phoenicococcus marlatti (red date scale)
Prymnotrypes spp. (Andean potato weevils)
Raoiella indica (red palm mite)
Rhagoletis mendax (blueberry maggot fly)
Rhynchophorus ferrugineus (red palm weevil)
Rhynchophorus palmarum (giant palm weevil)
Russelliana solanicola (a potato psyllid)
Singhiella simplex (fig whitefly)
Siphoninus pluvialleae (ash whitefly)
Trioza anceps (avocado psyllid)
Trioza erytrae (African citrus psyllid)
Trioza perseae (avocado psyllid)
Tropilaelaps clareae (Tropilaelaps mite)

Vinsonia stellifera (stellate scale)
Xyleborus glabratus (redbay ambrosia beetle)

DISEASES

Agrobacterium tumefaciens (crown gall)
Chilli leaf curl virus
Citrus chlorotic dwarf
Citrus leprosis virus
Citrus variegated
chlorosis Citrus yellow
mosaic virus
Cucumber green mottle mosaic virus
Cucurbit leaf crumple begemovirus
Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder crinivirus
Guignardia citricarpa (citrus black spot)
Huanglongbing (citrus greening disease)
Lethal yellowing of palms
Palm lethal yellowing
phytoplasma Pepino mosaic virus
Phomopsis gardeniae (gardenia canker)
Phytophthora alni
Phytophthora europea
Phytophthora foliorum
Phytophthora hedriandra
Phytophthora kernoviae
Phytophthora nemarosa
Phytophthora pseudosyringae
Phytophthora ramorum (sudden oak death / Ramorum blight)
Phytophthora siskyouensis
Phytophthora tropicalis
Psorosis complex of viruses
Puccinia pelargonii – zonalis (geranium rust)
Puccinia horiana (chrysanthemum white rust)
Septoria citri (Septoria spot of citrus)
Sphaceloma poinsettiae (poinsettia scab)
Sugarcane bacilliform badnavirus
Sugarcane yellow leaf syndrome phytoplasma
Texas Phoenix palm decline phytoplasma
Tomato chlorosis virus
Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus
Tomato marchitez virus
Tomato severe leaf curl virus
Tomato torrado virus
Tomato yellow leaf curl virus

Tomato yellow leaf curl virus-China, Seychelles, & Indonesia
 strains Tomato yellow vein streak
Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. *citri* (citrus canker)

MOLLUSKS

Achatina spp. (giant African land snails)
Archachatina marginata (banana rasp snail)
Cryptomphalus spp. (brown garden snail and others)
Lissachatina fulica (giant African land snail)
Megalobulimus oblongus (giant South American snail)
Otala lactea (milk snail)
Theba pisana (white garden snail)
Zachrysis provisoria (Cuban land snail)

NEMATODES

Anguina tritici (wheat gall nematode)
Bursaphelenchus cocophilus (red ring nematode)
Ditylenchus destructor (potato rot nematode)
Ditylenchus dispaci (bud and stem nematode)
Globodera rostochiensis (potato cyst nematode)
Globodera pallida (potato cyst nematode)
Hemicycliophora arenaria (citrus sheath nematode)
Heterodera carotae (carrot cyst nematode)
Heterodera cruciferae (cabbage cyst nematode)
Heterodera goettingiana (pea cyst nematode)
Heterodera zea (corn cyst nematode)
Hoplolaimus columbus (Columbia lance nematode)
Longidorus africanus (a needle nematode)
Longidorus belondriodes (a needle nematode)
Meloidogyne chitwoodi (Columbia root-knot nematode)
Meloidogyne citri (a citrus root-knot nematode)
Meloidogyne enterolobii (a root-knot nematode)
Meloidogyne fujianensis (citrus root-knot nematode)
Meloidogyne mayaguensis (guava root-knot nematode)
Meloidogyne naasi (cereal root-knot nematode)
Nacobbus aberrans (false root-knot nematode)
Pratylenchus convallariae (a lesion nematode)
Pratylenchus crenatus (a lesion nematode)
Pratylenchus goodeyi (a lesion nematode)
Xiphinema brevicolle (a dagger nematode)
Xiphinema bricolensis (a dagger nematode)
Xiphinema californicum (a dagger nematode)
Xiphinema diversicaudatum (a dagger nematode)

Xiphinema index (California dagger nematode)

Xiphinema insigne (a dagger nematode)

Xiphinema vuittenezi (a dagger nematode)

Zygotylenchus spp. (a lesion nematode)

BOLL WEEVIL QUARANTINE

PEST: Boll weevil, *Anthonomus grandis*

STATES REGULATED: ALL

MATERIALS REGULATED: Any article including but not limited to cotton plants, seed cotton, gin trash, and equipment capable of transporting or harboring boll weevil or the insect itself.

RESTRICTIONS: Regulated articles from infested areas may enter Florida provided each shipment is accompanied by a certificate issued by and bearing the signature of an authorized inspector of the state of origin, certifying that such regulated articles were treated as recommended by the department or inspected and found free for the presence of Boll Weevil (*Anthonomus grandis*).

CITRUS PESTS

PESTS: All injurious insects, plant diseases or disorders of citrus. STATES

REGULATED: All

MATERIALS REGULATED: Any and all kinds of citrus plants and parts thereof.

RESTRICTIONS: It is unlawful to move into Florida any and all kinds of citrus trees and parts thereof except by a special permit from the Division Director. Permits are not required to move citrus fruits into the state. Federal Domestic Quarantines regulate the interstate movement of fruit from areas known to harbor fruit flies injurious to citrus.

DOGWOOD ANTHRACNOSE

PEST: Dogwood anthracnose

STATES REGULATED: AL, CAL, CT, DE, GA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MS, MO, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, WA, WA DC, WV and any other state, where dogwood anthracnose is determined to be established.

MATERIALS REGULATED: A dogwood plant (*Cornus* spp.) or part thereof or any other plant or part thereof which is capable of harboring or transporting dogwood anthracnose in any of its life stages.

RESTRICTIONS: The movement of dogwood plants or part thereof from infested states into Florida is prohibited except by master permit issued by the director.

FIREWOOD AND UNPROCESSED WOOD PRODUCTS

Commercial shipments of firewood entering the state is prohibited except by master permit issued by the director. Non-Commercial shipments of firewood entering the state must be accompanied by a certificate of inspection from the state of origin. Non-commercial shipments of firewood may be allowed entry if sufficient destination information is given and product is intended for immediate use.

HOST FRUIT OF FRUIT FLIES

PEST: Fruit flies (*Anastrepha* spp. (except *A. suspensa*), *Bactocera* spp., *Dacus* spp., *Rhagoletis* spp., and *Ceratitis* spp.)

STATES REGULATED: All areas infested

MATERIALS REGULATED: All host fruit which is known to be or found to be a host or articles that may be infested of any fruit flies listed above

RESTRICTIONS: Host fruit is prohibited into the State of Florida unless accompanied by a certificate issued by an authorized representative of the USDA or the state of origin denoting the absence of fruit flies listed above, or having complied with a treatment established by the department or USDA to insure freedom from fruit flies.

LETTUCE MOSAIC

PEST: Lettuce mosaic virus STATES

REGULATED: ALL

MATERIALS REGULATED: Lettuce seed and plants

RESTRICTIONS: Lettuce seed and or plants moved into, sold or planted in a commercial lettuce production area in Florida shall be certified as having been tested for lettuce mosaic virus by a testing facility approved by the Division of Plant Industry.

OAK WILT

PEST: Oak wilt disease

STATES REGULATED: AL, AR, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NY, NC, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WV, WI, and any other state, where oak wilt is determined to be established.

MATERIALS REGULATED: Rooted trees and seedling plants of oak (*Quercus* spp.), chestnut (*Castanea* spp.), chinquapin (*Castanopsis* spp.) and tanbark oak (*Lithocarpus densiflora*), and any parts of such plants for propagation, except seed.

RESTRICTIONS: The movement of oak wilt disease or host plants into the state from an infested or regulated area is prohibited except by master permit issued by the director. The movement of firewood with bark and unpeeled lumber into the state from an infested or regulated area is prohibited except by a certificate issued by an authorized representative of the state of origin. The certificate shall state that these regulated articles have been treated in a manner approved by the department to minimize risk of inadvertent introduction of oak wilt disease.

SEED POTATO PESTS

PESTS: Seed potatoes offered for sale in Florida must not exceed the tolerances indicated for the following plant pests: nematode and tuber moth injury, 0%; bacterial ring rot, 0%; blackleg, 1%; Fusarium rot (damage by), 1%; soft rot or wet breakdown, 1%; varietal mixture, .25%; late blight, 1%; and any other dangerous pest of potatoes not listed, 0%. Must also meet requirements for external and internal defects as provided by U.S. Standards for Grades of Seed Potatoes (37 F.R. 8667).

STATES REGULATED: ALL

MATERIALS REGULATED: Seed potatoes

RESTRICTIONS: (1) All potatoes to be sold for propagation in Florida must meet U.S. No. 1 seed potato requirements as set forth in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Seed Potatoes (37 F.R. 8667). (2) All potatoes to be sold for seed in Florida must have been grown under a seed potato certification program of the state or country of origin, and each bag must be accompanied by a certificate issued by the agency administering the seed potato certification program. (3) The department shall have the authority to open any shipment of seed potatoes for inspection and to draw a reasonable sample from any bag of seed potatoes for laboratory examination or for planting for field observation.

SNAILS

PESTS: Snails

Achatina spp. (Example: giant African land snails)

Cornus aspersa (brown garden snail)

Helix spp.

Lissachatina fulica (giant African land snail)

Megalobulimus oblongus (giant South American snail)

Theba pisana (white garden snail)

Any other plant-infesting snail which may be determined by department order or rule to be injurious to Florida agriculture.

STATES REGULATED: AZ, CA, HI, NM, OR, TX, WA,

MATERIALS REGULATED: Any plant, plant product or other regulated article capable of transporting or harboring plant-feeding snails.

RESTRICTIONS: Regulated articles from infested states may move into Florida provided they have been inspected by authorized officials of the state of origin and each shipment accompanied by an original special certificate stating that the articles have been inspected and meet Florida's requirements.

SUGARCANE

STATES REGULATED: ALL

MATERIALS REGULATED: Propagative parts of sugarcane including all species of the genus *Saccharum* and all species of its close relatives *Imperata*, *Miscanthidium*, *Miscanthus*, *Rapidium*, *Erianthus*, and *Sorghum* and all hybrids, selections, varieties, or clones.

RESTRICTIONS: The movement of propagative parts of sugarcane into the State of Florida is prohibited unless accompanied by a special permit issued by the department. Sorghum seed is exempt from this requirement provided it is apparently free from plant pests.

APIARY INSPECTION LAW - PESTS OF HONEYBEES AND UNWANTED RACES OF HONEYBEES

PESTS: American foulbrood, *Tropilaelaps clareae*, varroa mite, African honeybee, Cape honeybee and any other honeybee race or pest determined by the department to be a threat to the state.

STATES REGULATED: ALL

MATERIALS REGULATED: American foulbrood, *Tropilaelaps clareae*, varroa mite African honeybee, Cape honeybee, any honeybee race or pest determined by the department to be a threat to the state, used beekeeping equipment or fixtures and any other article capable of transporting a regulated pest or an unwanted race of honeybees.

RESTRICTIONS: The movement of all honeybees, beekeeping equipment, or other regulated articles is prohibited entry into the State of Florida unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the state of origin department of agriculture certifying that the regulated articles were inspected and found to meet Florida's entry requirements.