

OKLAHOMA

SUMMARY OF PLANT QUARANTINE REGULATIONS Updated September 2025

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Notification of nursery stock shipments, when required for the federal quarantine on Sudden Oak Death/*Phytophthora ramorum*, should be sent to Melissa Beets' attention or email melissa.beets@ag.ok.gov

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

"Nursery stock" means and includes, whether in field or container, all trees, shrubs, vines, rosebushes, turfgrass, cuttings, grafts, scions, fruit pits, herbaceous plants, evergreens and other ornamental trees, bushes, collected wild plants and trees, decorative plants, tropical plants, flowering plants, bedding plants, vegetable plants for transplanting, aquatic plants, roots, corms, rhizomes, bulbs, and ferns grown for propagation, all packing materials, and other things used in the handling, storing, crating, and shipping of nursery stock. "Nursery stock" does not include cut Christmas trees, wreaths, seeds, vegetables or fruits, agronomic crops, cut or dried flowers, and cut or dried herbs.

GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

All nursery stock shipped into Oklahoma shall have a certificate on each package stating that the contents were inspected by an authorized inspecting officer and that the contents appear free from plant pests. Plants originating from the Imported Fire Ant quarantined areas must be accompanied by a certificate indicating treatment for Imported Fire Ant.

HEMP CLONE IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

Hemp clones require a phytosanitary certificate from the state of origin.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

1. Musk Thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
2. Scotch Thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
3. Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
4. Bindweed, field (*Convolvulus arvensis*)

<https://ag.ok.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Oklahoma-Noxious-Weed-Law.pdf>

<https://ag.ok.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Oklahoma-Weed-Infested-Material-Law-Rules-May-2024.pdf>

FEDERAL NOXIOUS WEEDS

Plants listed on the Federal Noxious Weed list, 7 CFR § 360.200 ([7 CFR 360.200 Designation of noxious weeds.](#)), are prohibited from propagation, sale, or distribution in Oklahoma. This shall include sterile varieties of *Imperata cylindrica*.

PROHIBITED AQUATIC PLANT SPECIES

A person shall not knowingly propagate, sell, or offer for sale any aquatic plant pest. "Aquatic plant pest" shall include, but not be limited to, any aquatic plant species listed as a noxious aquatic plant in Oklahoma's Horticulture Law and Rules.

QUARANTINES

Imported Fire Ant Quarantine

PEST: Imported Fire Ant, *Solenopsis* spp.

REGULATED AREA: Regulated areas are the areas designated as quarantined areas in 7 CFR 301.81.3.

REGULATED AREAS IN OKLAHOMA: Imported Fire Ant regulated areas are the Oklahoma counties of: Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Choctaw, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Garvin, Haskell, Hughes, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnston, Kiowa, Latimer, LeFlore, Love, Marshall, McCurtain, Murray, Pittsburgh, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Seminole, Stephens, and Tillman.

REGULATED ARTICLES: (1) Soil, separately or with other things; (2) plants with soil attached, except houseplants grown in the home and not for sale; (3) grass sod; (4) mechanized soil-moving equipment; (5) hay and straw; and (6) any other products, articles, or other means of conveyance, of any character not covered in (1)-(5), when it is determined by an authorized agent that they present a hazard of Imported Fire Ant, and the person in possession has been so notified.

RESTRICTIONS: Certificates shall indicate that the regulated articles are free of all living stages of the Imported Fire Ant. Federal certificates or permits may be used in lieu of certificate of state of origin if the interstate shipper meets the requirements of law. In all cases, certificates or permits must be furnished by the carrier to the consignee at destination of the shipment.

Moss Ball Quarantine or other aquatics infested with Zebra Mussell

PEST: Moss Ball (*Aegagropila linnaei*)

REGULATED AREAS IN OKLAHOMA: The regulated quarantined area includes all states, districts, and territories of the United States

REGULATED ARTICLES: Moss Ball (*Aegagropila linnaei*), and any aquatic species found to be infested with Zebra Mussell (*Dreissena polymorpha*).

RESTRICTIONS: All regulated articles are prohibited entry into or transition through the State of Oklahoma unless the articles are:

- (1) Accompanied by a current certificate of inspection from the state of origin declaring the articles have been officially inspected and found free of Zebra Mussell (*Dreissena polymorpha*) and the articles have been stored in such a manner to remain free of the Zebra Mussell (*Dreissena polymorpha*) in storage and transit; or

- (2) Have a current certificate of inspection from the aquatics invasive species regulatory agency in the shipping state.

Oklahoma Boll Weevil Quarantine (Updated April, 2005)

PEST: Boll Weevil, *Anthonomus grandis* Boheman, in any living state of development.

STATES REGULATED: Any state other than Oklahoma or any portion of that state which is infested with the boll weevil.

MATERIALS REGULATED: The boll weevil (*Anthonomus grandis* Boheman) in any living stage of development, cotton, cotton products, cotton production equipment, and any other products, articles, means of conveyance, or any other item not already listed if determined by an inspector that a hazard of spreading the boll weevil exists and the person in possession has been

ALL COUNTIES IN OKLAHOMA ARE DESIGNATED ERADICATED.

The following rule was adopted as set forth, effective date of May 27, 2005:

35:30-14-7. Cotton destruction in elimination zones

- (a) Volunteer and other non-commercial cotton in elimination zones shall be managed in the same manner and at the same expenses as commercial cotton.
- (b) When volunteer and other non-commercial cotton is located within an elimination zone, the owner shall be notified in writing that the cotton has the potential to host boll weevils and ordering that the cotton be destroyed.
 - a. The notification shall state that the owner has two weeks from the date of the letter to destroy the volunteer or non-commercial cotton.
 - b. If the owner fails to comply with the letter, the Department shall destroy the cotton by any available means and the costs associated with the destruction shall be assessed to the owner and the failure shall be a violation of the Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Act.

Cotton Seed Bug Quarantine

PEST: Cotton Seed Bug, *Oxycarenus hyalinipennis*

REGULATED AREA: Regulated articles from the State of California, and any other state or foreign country known to be infested with the cotton seed bug (*Oxycarenus hyalinipennis*) shall be quarantined.

REGULATED ARTICLES: The following shall be regulated pursuant to this quarantine: (1). All plant and plant parts of the family Malvaceae including, but not limited to, nursery stock and other living, dead, cut, or fallen fruit, fruiting structures, or seeds; (2). All life stages of the

cotton seed bug. (*Oxycarenus hyalinipennis*); and (3). All equipment used for the production and transportation of cotton.

RESTRICTIONS: (a) All regulated articles originating from quarantines areas are prohibited entry into or transition through the State of Oklahoma unless the articles are: (1) Accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate from the state of origin declaring the articles have been officially inspected after harvest and found free of the cotton seed bug (*Oxycarenus haylinipennis*) and the articles have been stored in such a manner to remain free of the cotton seed bug in storage and transit; or (2) Included in a cooperative agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry. (b) Regulated articles originating in an area not known to have cotton seed bug but in transit through an area known to have the cotton seed bug shall be regulated articles. (c) Interstate and intrastate movement of regulated articles for scientific or experimental purposes shall be exempt from the provisions of 35:30-8-4 and may move under a compliance agreement and scientific permit, as required.

Disclaimer

The information provided herein is intended for general informational purposes only. It should not be interpreted as complete or sufficient to satisfy all applicable federal or state regulatory requirements. Persons engaged in the movement of regulated articles are responsible for ensuring compliance with all quarantine laws and regulations.

Coordination with the appropriate plant regulatory agency in both the origin and destination states may be required to remain current with revised requirements.

Updated information on Oklahoma's quarantine, horticulture, and inspection laws and regulations may be found in the **Oklahoma Statutes, Title 2 (Agriculture)** and the **Oklahoma Administrative Code, Title 35 (Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry)**, available at:

- [Oklahoma Statutes, Title 2](#)
- [Oklahoma Administrative Code, Title 35](#)

The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) may conduct quarantine inspections of regulated articles, including plants, vegetables, other agricultural products, or equipment, that are considered hosts or carriers of plant pests or diseases.