

PENNSYLVANIA  
SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL QUARANTINES  
Updated December 2024  
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau 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. Links to current laws and regulations can be found below.

Web site: <http://www.agriculture.pa.gov>

Shipping Notifications e-mail: [RA-AGNursery\\_Cert@pa.gov](mailto:RA-AGNursery_Cert@pa.gov)

Nursery and Nursery Dealer Search:

<https://www.paplants.pa.gov/Licenses/PlantMerchantSearch.aspx>

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### NURSERY STOCK DEFINITION

All trees, shrubs, brambles, woody vines, woody florist stock, herbaceous perennials, vegetable plants, bedding and other annual herbaceous plants, their roots, cuttings, grafts, scions, buds, fruit pits, seeds and their parts for propagation, except bulbs, field crop seeds, vegetable seeds and flower seeds, regardless of where the material may have been grown or is growing.

### GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

All nursery stock shipped into Pennsylvania must have attached a valid nursery, dealer or agent certificate, or a certificate of inspection from the state of origin indicating the nursery stock is free from plant pests. In addition, shipments must be marked with names and addresses of the shipper and the person to whom shipped, and a complete list of contents.

NOTE: Pre-notification of nursery stock shipments, when required, should be sent to Anita Ashe's attention at the above address or fax number, or email to: [RA-AGNursery\\_Cert@pa.gov](mailto:RA-AGNursery_Cert@pa.gov)

### GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS FOR HEMP

All clones, nursery stock, cuttings for hemp must have a valid nursery, dealer or agent certificate, or a certificate of inspection from the state of origin indicating the nursery stock is free from plant pests. In addition, shipments must be marked with names and addresses of the shipper, the company/person to whom the shipped, a complete list of contents and a seed/plant source certificate of THC analysis for every variety. Shipments of hemp may only ship to those with a hemp permit issued by the PA Dept. of Agriculture. Pre-notification of 48 prior to shipping are required to be reported at: [plant@pa.gov](mailto:plant@pa.gov)

### NOXIOUS WEEDS

[https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants\\_Land\\_Water/PlantIndustry/NIPPP/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/NIPPP/Pages/default.aspx)

**Class A Noxious Weeds:** Preventing new infestations and eradicating existing infestations of noxious weeds in the class is high priority. The following are Class A noxious weeds:

- Galega officinalis* .....Goatsrue
- Heracleum mantegazzianum* ..... Giant Hogweed
- Pueraria lobata*..... Kudzu

<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i> .....	Palmer amaranth
<i>Amaranthus rudis</i> .....	Waterhemp
<i>Amaranthus tuberculatus</i> .....	Tall waterhemp
<i>Avena sterilis</i> .....	Animated oat
<i>Cuscuta spp. (Except for native species)</i> .....	Dodder
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> .....	Hydrilla
<i>Orobanche spp. (Except for native species)</i> .....	Broomrape
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> .....	Wavyleaf basketgrass

**Class B Noxious Weeds:** The department may require control of Class B weeds to contain an injurious infestation or may provide education or technical consultation. The following are Class B noxious weeds:

<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> .....	Bull thistle or Spear thistle
<i>Cirsium arvense</i> .....	Canada thistle
<i>Carduus nutans</i> .....	Musk thistle or Nodding thistle
<i>Sorghum halepense</i> .....	Johnson grass
<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i> .....	Mile-a-Minute
<i>Rosa multiflora</i> .....	Multiflora Rose
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> .....	Purple loosestrife
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> .....	Shattercane
<i>Conium maculatum</i> .....	Poison hemlock

**Class C Noxious Weeds:** Preventing introduction and eradication of infestations of noxious weeds in this class is the highest priority. Class C noxious weeds are any Federal noxious weeds listed on the Federal Noxious Weed List that are not yet established in the Commonwealth and are not referenced above.

## Boxwood Blight Quarantine

<https://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol46/46-26/1071.html>

Pennsylvania considers *Calonectria pseudonaviculatum*, Boxwood Blight to be a serious threat to landscape plantings in the Commonwealth. Currently Boxwood Blight

is not an established disease. A quarantine is now in effect for any positive material grown and/or shipped into Pennsylvania. A sample which is determined to be positive for Boxwood Blight will require the grower/supplier to

implement a systems approach to mitigate and prevent the disease prior to shipping *Buxus (sp)*. into the Commonwealth. The systems approaches implemented will have to be certified by PDA or the state authority of the originating material. Any material found to be positive for Boxwood Blight will be placed under Stop-Sale and will be destroyed.

Retailers or non-producers with positive plant material for Boxwood Blight will be required to sanitize the space where the plants were located. Non-producers will be required to enter into a Non-Producers Clean Program approved by PDA or the state authority of the material.

For details of the systems approach requirements please see the quarantine.

## Firewood Quarantine

### [Firewood Quarantine Order Update](#)

The movement of firewood of all types and species into this Commonwealth is prohibited. Firewood includes all wood, processed or unprocessed, coniferous or hardwood, meant for use in a campfire or other outdoor or indoor fire. This prohibition does not apply to the transportation of sawlogs, pulpwood or wood chips to facilities for processing into lumber, paper or manufactured wood products.

Examples of circumstances under which firewood from out-of-state is regulated under this quarantine include instances where firewood is transported to public and private campgrounds by campers, or to sporting events and other events where travelers camp outdoors; or to activities such as Civil War reenactments where wood is used for cooking and evening campfires; or as bulk firewood sold by the truckload or some other volume of measure (cord, face cord, rick, and the like), or as firewood purchased for indoor residential use.

Heat treated wood will be accepted if properly labelled. The heat treatment standard to be used is 71.1 Celsius (160 Fahrenheit) for 75 minutes. Please see the actual quarantine for label requirements.

## Imported Fire Ant (*Solenopsis spp.*)

Red imported fire ants were introduced to the United States in 1918 and black imported fire ants were introduced sometime in the late 1930's. It is believed these pests arrived in the United States in soil used in the ballasts of ships. Imported fire ants pose a hazard to humans, animals and agricultural interests. This pest is aggressive when disturbed and will bite and sting and is a pest of concern to the Commonwealth. Imported Fire Ant is a federally regulated pest.

Pennsylvania requires any soil, plants, or other articles which may move the imported fire ant in any living stage of development to have a Certificate of Inspection from the appropriate state agency from which the article is being moved. This includes homeowner plants, such as houseplants and outdoor plants and baled items such as hay or straw. Certification guidelines are those listed in the USDA, APHIS, PPQ Imported Fire Ant Program Manual. Refer to the Federal Imported Fire Ant Quarantine for additional information.

Imported Fire Ant Quarantined States: *Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.*

## Spotted Lanternfly

### [Spotted Lanternfly | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

The Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula* (White), is an invasive planthopper native to China, India, Vietnam. It was first discovered in Pennsylvania in Berks County and has spread to other counties in the southeast portion of the Commonwealth. This insect has the potential to greatly impact agricultural crops such as grape, hops, and hardwoods. It is also reducing the quality of life for people living in heavily infested areas.

Pennsylvania requires businesses of any state in areas known to have active SLF populations to complete the PA Spotted Lanternfly Permitting process before importing regulated article into PA. Questions regarding permits should be sent to [slfpermit@pa.gov](mailto:slfpermit@pa.gov)

<https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly-permit-training>

## Phytophthora ramorum (Sudden Oak Death)

Sudden Oak Death was first reported in 1995 in Mill Valley (Marin County) on tanoak. Since that time, the pathogen has been confirmed on various native hosts in fifteen coastal California counties (Marin, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Napa, San Mateo, Monterey, Santa Clara, Mendocino, Solano, Alameda, Contra Costa, Humboldt, Trinity, Lake, and San Francisco), and in Curry County, Oregon. Through ongoing surveys, APHIS-PPQ continues to define the extent of the pathogen's distribution in the US and limit its artificial spread beyond infected areas through quarantine and a public education program.

Pennsylvania requires all businesses shipping nursery stock into the Commonwealth to be inspected and apparently free from disease. This includes required negative testing of shippers from quarantined areas as stated in the Federal regulation <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=0f96c3a3dcfdf7b4a1b01bcf78ebdf70&mc=true&node=sp7.5.301.x&rqn=div6> and Federal Order <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/plant-pest-and-disease-programs/pests-and-diseases/phytophthora-ramorum/sod-federal-orders> .

[quarantine\\_map.pdf \(usda.gov\)](#)

## Box Tree Moth Quarantine

<https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol54/54-28/985.html>

Pennsylvania considers *Cydalima perspectalis*, Box Tree Moth to be a threat to landscape plantings in the Commonwealth. Currently Box Tree Moth is not in Pennsylvania. A quarantine is now in effect for any positive material grown and/or shipped into Pennsylvania. This quarantine is in conjunction with the Federal Quarantine supported by USDA. If a positive for BTM is found in a county in the state and determined to be positive it will require the grower/supplier to implement a systems approach to mitigate and prevent the insect prior to shipping *Buxus (sp)*. into the Commonwealth. The systems approaches implemented will have to be certified by PDA or the state authority of the originating material. These will be captured within a Compliance Agreement. Any material found to be positive for Box Tree Moth, will be placed under Stop-Sale and will be required to be treated, removed, or destroyed.

Retailers or non-producers located in a county with positive plant material for Box Tree Moth will be required to report and enter into a Non-Producers Compliance Agreement. The Non-Producers Clean Program must be approved by PDA or the state authority of the origin of material.