



Nursery, Seed, Plant Export and Protection News

Fall 2010

www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi

Welcome to the *first* edition of the Division of Plant Industry Nursery, Seed, Plant Export, and Protection News! We publish this newsletter to provide our customers with information about recent regulatory developments that affect the nursery, seed and plant export industries of Colorado. In past years, communication regarding each program was delivered separately. Beginning in 2011 all communication and registrations for these programs will be *consolidated*.

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COMBINED RENEWALS FOR NURSERY AND SEED REGISTRATIONS

Many of the industries required to register with Colorado Department of Agriculture hold multiple registrations. For example, a high number of retail nurseries hold both nursery registrations to sell

nursery stock **and** seed registrations to sell bulk or one pound (or more) volumes of seed. In an attempt to make our programs more efficient we are **combining the renewal process for both Seeds and Nursery Programs!**

What does this mean to you? If you or your business hold both a Seed registration **and** Nursery registration, you will receive 2011 registration renewal documents for both programs at **the same time**. This also means that you will submit **one payment for both registrations**.

Consolidation of registration and renewals for these two programs will help accomplish many things, all of which should be of benefit to you:

- More efficiency within CDA (more programs, such as weights and measures, eggs, etc. will be added in the future).
- No more confusion regarding which CDA registrations have been paid and which are still due.
- Future ability to renew, register and pay online. (*Not yet available*)
- Streamlining and increased efficiency of inspections.

The consolidated renewal process (if you hold more than one registration) is reflected in the renewal documents you will receive for the 2011 registration year.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments at (303)239-4153 or (303)-239-4154.

JAPANESE BEETLE QUARANTINE IN COLORADO

The Japanese beetle is an insect pest that affects many Colorado Ag businesses. With the support of the Colorado Nursery Industry, Colorado enacted quarantine restrictions against this insect and products that harbor it to help protect our nursery, landscape, and fruit production industries.

Description

The Japanese beetle adult is a scarab beetle and is approximately one-half inch long and has a metallic green body and coppery wing covers. There are 12 tufts of white hairs bordering the margin of the wing covers. It is a serious pest of grasses, including sod, while in the larval stage. As an adult, it is a voracious pest of over 350 different species of plants in 78 plant families. Preferred hosts include grapes, raspberry, peach, plum, rose, apple, cherry, corn, soybean, Virginia creeper, hibiscus, hollyhock, dahlia, zinnia, elm, horsechestnut, linden, lombardy poplar, willow, crepe myrtle, elder, and evening primrose.



Figure 1: Japanese beetle adult

There are no exceptions to this quarantine! Anyone (the general public and commercial businesses) bringing trees, shrubs, and perennials into Colorado with root balls/pots larger than 12 inches in diameter must have the plants certified by the quarantined State prior to shipment. Ornamental grasses, regardless of type and container size and all turfgrass sod must meet quarantine criteria, to be allowed entry into Colorado.

What States and Provinces are under quarantine?



The States of AL, AK, AR, CT, DE, GE, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VT, VA, WV, WI, and the District of Columbia. The Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada.

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What plants and products are affected?

- ❖ Soil, compost, and manure
- ❖ Sod
- ❖ All rooted plants in containers or with root balls greater than 12 inches in diameter
- ❖ All ornamental grasses and sedges regardless of size
- ❖ Bulbs, corms tubers, and rhizomes of ornamental plants (these are exempt when free of soil)

How does one meet the quarantine criteria?

A nursery or company selling any of the products listed above must contact their respective State Department of Agriculture prior to shipping into Colorado. The quarantined plant material or

QUARANTINE

Colorado's Japanese Beetle Quarantine, dictates that all nursery material with a root ball size larger than 12 inches, be certified free of Japanese beetle by the exporting States' department of agriculture.

product must be accompanied by an **official** phytosanitary document stating **one** of the following options:

- 30 *Plants were grown in an area free of Japanese beetle based on negative trapping data.*
- 30 *Plants were grown in a nursery officially accredited to be free of Japanese beetle.*
- 30 *Plants were treated with approved insecticides.*

Please refer to the official copy of the Colorado Quarantine against Japanese Beetles for more detailed information and approved treatments. It is located on our website at www.colorado.gov/ag.dpi under quarantine.

vertebrates. Parasitic nematodes are often more complicated to apply in order to be effective. They are, after all, living organisms. For more information, visit us online at www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi or contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 303-239-4140.



RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS/ENFORCEMENT OF THE JAPANESE BEETLE QUARANTINE

The Quarantine has been in place since January 1, 2010. Enforcement begins in January of 2011, by requiring records documenting shipment of Japanese beetle free nursery stock and products. These records must accompany all quarantined stock *and be kept on file by the importing nursery* for inspection. If the appropriate records cannot be produced, undocumented nursery stock may be treated, destroyed or returned to the state of origin *at the importer's expense*. Civil fines (up to \$1000/violation) also may be levied.

What Records must be kept?

"26-10.1 Records Required:

All persons engaged in the business of selling nursery stock in this state shall keep records of all shipments of nursery stock imported from outside this state. These records shall be kept for a minimum of three years. Such records shall include the following information:

- ❑ Date stock was received;

- ❑ Name and address of business from which stock was purchased;
- ❑ Kind and type of nursery stock (including common name OR genus and species names);
- ❑ Amount of nursery stock received; and
- ❑ Container size, tree caliper, height, or root ball size.”

What do you (the importer of nursery stock) need to do?

1. Keep copies of all records of the stock you bring in from other States. Make sure the records include the information, listed above.
2. If the stock is under the JB quarantine—make sure the load is accompanied by an official phytosanitary certificate. Keep the certificate in your records.
3. Make the records available to CDA inspectors when they come to do a records inspection, nursery inspection or both.

Optional JB recording keeping forms are available from CDA by request.

NURSERY REGISTRATION: Who, What and Why?

Anyone who sells or advertises with the intent to sell nursery stock in the state of Colorado must be registered. The source of the stock, or who grows it, does not matter. This means that individuals or companies that provide or install nursery stock as part of a service, must also be registered. For example landscapers might purchase nursery stock from a licensed vendor and then ‘resell’ plants to a customer. In this case a nursery registration is required regardless of whether or not the landscaper ‘holds’ the plant material or not. Tree collectors also need to have a nursery registration. Like the landscaper, a tree collector does not grow the nursery stock, but a collected tree is sold to a potential customer. The sale of nursery stock is the key factor in determining if a license is required.

Some definitions from the Colorado Nursery Act
(Title 35, article 26) may help:

35-26-101 (4) “**Collector**” means any person who collects nursery stock for sale purposes.

35-26-101 (11) “**Landscape contractor**” means a person who provides nursery stock for compensation or value as part of a site development or landscaping service.

35-26-101 (12) “**Nursery**” means any grounds or premises on or in which nursery stock is propagated, held, or grown for sale purposes.

35-26-101 (18) “**Place of business**” means each separate nursery, store, stand, sales ground, lot, or any location from which nursery stock is being sold, offered for sale, or distributed.

35-26-106 (1) A person shall not engage in the business of selling nursery stock in this state, nor shall he advertise with the intent and purpose of selling nursery stock in this state, without having first obtained a registration.....The commissioner shall by rule or regulation, establish a registration fee for each place of business.

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SEED REGISTRATION: Who, What and Why?

The Colorado Seed Act (Title 35, Article 27) requires/provides consumer protection via truth in seed labeling.

A seed registration is required to label, sell or custom clean seed in Colorado. However, companies and individuals who only sell seed in pre-packaged containers of one pound or less are not required to register.

4 different seed registrations are offered:

- Retail seed dealers are engaged in selling bulk seed or seed in containers larger than one pound at retail in CO. The annual registration fee is \$50.00.

- Farmer seed labelers label seed produced for sale on property they own or rent in CO. The annual registration fee is \$75.00.
- Custom seed conditioners are engaged in the business of cleaning, scarifying, sizing or anything that would change the purity or germination of the seed with a stationary or portable machine for hire. The annual registration fee is \$300.00
- Seed labelers are engaged in the business of labeling seed for sale in CO. If a company's name and address appears on the label of seed, then they are a 'labeler'. The annual registration fee is \$300.00.

NEW PESTS

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB)

All living organisms have certain built in mechanisms for spread or self dispersal that usually include aids such as wind, water and the ability to "hitchhike". Those interested in protecting agriculture and natural resources are on the constant lookout for exotic or invasive species that hitchhike or otherwise move into previously un-colonized areas.



BSMB on a crab apple leaf. Photo: Rutgers

Currently, in Colorado we are watching for over 22 pests that we think may pose a risk for agriculture, forests, and urban landscapes. Sometimes pests that are not on the 'watch' list catch us off guard.

The brown marmorated stink bug or BMSB is in the 'news' in the Eastern and Mid Western US. Originally from Asia, the insect has been in Pennsylvania since 2001 and is spreading. This summer reports were heard from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. First reports of this pest were mainly related to invasions of homes, where there is very little concern over plant damage. However, this past summer in Maryland and New Jersey BMSB began to cause serious damage to fruit crops and ornamentals.

It is possible we will see this pest show up in Colorado as it hitchhikes on vehicles and can also move through commerce. BMSB commonly feeds on landscape ornamentals and is often noticed by homeowners first. Nursery growers and retailers should familiarize themselves with this pest not only to help clientele, but to protect themselves. Make sure to check nursery stock coming from the Eastern US to be sure it is free from the pest. Favored plants include fruit trees (*Pyrus*, *Prunus*, and *Malus* spp), catalpa, Norway maple, honeysuckle, butterfly bush, beans, raspberry and grape.

The stink bug is dark mottled brown in color ranging in length from 14 – 17 mm. Similar in shape to a box elder bug or seed bug, it causes damage on leaves and fruit by creating necrotic water soaked-lesions or cat-facing damage in fruit. It will also invade homes in the winter and be a major nuisance to homeowners. Like the name implies, the stink bug has an odor that adds to their nuisance potential.

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***Duponchelia fovealis* (DF)**

Duponchelia fovealis or DF is a pest that actually appeared in Colorado this summer. Arriving with plant material from California (we think), DF is a moth that originates in the Mediterranean, where it causes damage to peppers, corn, squash and tomatoes. The moth was found in San Diego County CA in 2004 and then again in 2010. In the US and Canada the moth has been feeding on poinsettias, bedding plants, potted flowering and tropical plants.



Duponchelia adult. Photo: Central Science Laboratory, UK



Duponchelia caterpillar. Photo: Central Science Laboratory, UK

Late this summer, USDA APHIS placed traps monitoring for DF in over 50 different retail nurseries and greenhouses in Colorado. DF was verified in 6 of these locations on the Front Range.

Much is still unknown about this pest and its potential impact on greenhouse and nursery crops in our area. A warm weather pest, the insect is not expected to survive Colorado's winters, however, it is expected to survive quite well in greenhouses.

DF larva are able to cause severe damage to main stems of plants, but seem to prefer lower leaves and stem tissue that is adjacent to potting media. They can be difficult to control with contact insecticides since they feed on leaf undersides and below the soil line.

Insecticide treatment studies of Bifethrin and Bifenthrin + Orthene in California were effective when applied both as pre and post-treatment applications.

FIREWOOD CAN HARBOR PESTS – Buy local-burn local

Autumn is upon us, bringing with it not only a change in the color of foliage, but a change in the weather as well. As the state prepares for another cold winter, many money-conscious Coloradans may turn to the use of firewood as an alternative means of reducing heating costs. Consequently, consumer purchases of firewood will increase statewide.



When wood is transported from one area to another, for use such as firewood or fuel for winter stoves, the pests living in that wood can be transported as well. Firewood can harbor insects, like the mountain pine beetle as well exotic pests like the Emerald Ash Borer, that kills millions of trees each year. Logs transported from the high country to the front range and vice versa can move pests present in one community and introduce them into another. The bugs are transported to new areas by those who move firewood.

Further information regarding how you can protect Colorado's forests can be found at the CDA Division of Plant Industry website by clicking the "Burn It Where You Buy It!" link. Other sources of information can be found at StopTheBeetle.info or visit <http://www.dontmovefirewood.org/>

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PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE AND TRACKING SYSTEM (PCIT)

The Phytosanitary Certification Program makes it possible for Colorado producers to export produce, seeds, and other plant commodities to foreign countries through inspection and issuance of phytosanitary export certificates.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) uses a web-based tracking system to receive applications and issue Federal and State Phytosanitary certificates. The Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking (PCIT) System allows exporters to create and submit applications for certificates to export commodities online. Applications created in this fashion are automatically received by CDA and processed more efficiently. No more typing and faxing applications. PCIT allows exporters to view the progress of applications, print copies of applications and certificates and even save templates of applications

created to help expedite the process on all ends.

If you have any questions or need assistance with this program, contact us at 303-239-4154.

The web address for PCIT is:

<https://pcit.aphis.usda.gov/pcit/>

First time users: please click on 'New to PCIT?'; located under the login button Complete the application and submit it to Lakewood Colorado. As long as your application is submitted by 3:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time, we will process it the day received.