

TENNESSEE

SUMMARY OF PLANT PROTECTION REGULATIONS

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Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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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.

PLANT DEFINITION

[0080 - Department of Agriculture \(tnsosfiles.com\)](https://www.tnsosfiles.com)

Plant means nursery stock, annual plants, wild plants or any part of nursery stock, annual plants, or wild plants. Exceptions: the definition of plant does not include any harvested fruit, nut, or vegetable; cut flower; or non-rooted part of a plant that is incapable of propagation; however, such parts of a plant may be determined by the department to be regulated articles under certain circumstances.

GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

Each bundle package or container of nursery stock shipped or transported into Tennessee must be accompanied by a certificate tag, label, or stamp issued by the appropriate regulatory agency of the state of origin, certifying that the nursery stock to which it is attached has been appropriately inspected and found to be apparently free of insects, pest plants, and plant diseases.

QUARANTINES OR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

PEST PLANT RULE

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-19.pdf>

The following plants shall be considered pest plants, and shall not be propagated, sold, offered for sale, or released within the state, except as provided by Rule 0080-06-24-.03:

Commelina benghalensis, Tropical Spiderwort

Elaeagnus umbellata, Autumn olive

Elaeagnus pungens, Thorny olive

Imperata cylindrica, Cogongrass

Ligustrum sinense, Chinese privet including variegated or related cultivars

'Sunshine' Ligustrum is PROHIBITED

Ligustrum vulgare, Common privet, European Privet

Lonicera maackii, Shrub honeysuckle, Amur honeysuckle

Lonicera morrowii, Morrows bush honeysuckle, Morrow's honeysuckle

Lonicera x bella, Bell's honeysuckle

Lythrum salicaria, *Lythrum virgatum* and related cultivars, Purple Loosestrife

Rosa multiflora, Multiflora rose

Salvinia molesta, Giant Salvinia

Solanum viarum, Tropical Soda Apple

Permits for propagating, collecting, and selling designated pest plants may be granted by the commissioner under a compliance agreement for research and propagative purposes, as long as the plants are safeguarded from being sold, offered for sale, or released within Tennessee. Pest plants shall not be sold, offered for sale, or released within the state.

BOXWOOD BLIGHT

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-07.20180204.pdf>

PEST: Boxwood Blight, *Cylindrocladium buxicola*

STATES REGULATED: All states

MATERIALS REGULATED: Boxwood, *Pachysandra*, *Sarcococca*

A person shall not ship any boxwood plant, *Sarcococca* plant, or other regulated article into the state unless, the shipment is plainly marked with the name and address of the sender and the recipient and, the shipment is accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate and cleanliness program agreement issued for the nursery stock. Tennessee licensees are required to submit a shipping notification of regulated articles within three business days if sourced from an outside Tennessee.

BROWN GARDEN SNAIL QUARANTINE

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-12.pdf>

PEST: Brown Garden Snail, *Helix aspersa* Muller

STATES REGULATED: AZ, CA, LA, OR, SC, WA, any other state with a known infestation of brown garden snail or other injurious phytophagous snails.

MATERIALS REGULATED: The brown garden snail in any stage of development, nursery stock, other plants, plant material and articles or things capable of transporting the brown garden snail.

RESTRICTIONS: (1) Regulated materials must be accompanied by a certificate of quarantine compliance issued by and bearing the signature of an authorized inspector of the state of origin. The certificate will verify freedom from or that the commodities have been properly treated as recommended in the USDA, APHIS, PPQ Treatment Manual.

(2) Nurseries shipping regulated material into Tennessee, which are rejected, will be required to ship regulated materials from Tennessee or be destroyed. Multiple violations would prevent a nursery from moving plants and materials into Tennessee until such time as they can meet requirements.

IMPORTED FIRE ANT QUARANTINE

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-19.pdf>

PEST: Imported Fire Ant, *Solenopsis richteri* Forel, and *S. invicta* Boren

STATES REGULATED: AL, AR, CA, FL, GA, LA, NM, MS, NC, OK, PR, SC, TN, TX, VA

MATERIALS REGULATED: Imported fire ant in any life stage, soil, compost, decomposed manure, humus, peat, plants with roots with soil attached, hay, straw, used mechanized soil moving equipment and any other means of conveyance.

RESTRICTIONS: Certification guidelines are those listed in the USDA, APHIS, PPQ Imported Fire Ant Program manual.

NOTE: See Also Federal Imported Fire Ant Quarantine

[Imported Fire Ants | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

SUDDEN OAK DEATH QUARANTINE

<https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-26.20160622.pdf>

E-mail for Phytophthora ramorum pre-notification:

Plant.Certification@tn.gov

PEST: Phytophthora ramorum

STATES REGULATED: Any state or portion of a state under a federal quarantine.

MATERIALS REGULATED: All known and associated hosts of Phytophthora ramorum as determined by the USDA: [APHIS Lists of Proven Hosts of and Plants Associated with Phytophthora ramorum \(usda.gov\)](#), soil or any other material that serves as an introduction pathway for Phytophthora ramorum.

RESTRICTIONS: All shipments of regulated articles entering Tennessee from a federally quarantined area must meet or exceed the federal quarantine requirements. Commodities such as garland, greenery and soil not associated with nursery stock must be heat treated. Soil must be heated to a temperature of at least 180° F for 30 minutes in the presence of an inspector.

Wreaths, garlands, and greenery of host material and associated host material must be dipped for 1 hour in water that is held at a temperature of at least 160° F.

Federal Phytophthora ramorum regulations: [eCFR :: 7 CFR Part 301 Subpart X -- Phytophthora Ramorum](#)

FIREWOOD QUARANTINE

[0080-06-09.20210912.pdf \(tnsosfiles.com\)](#)

STATES REGULATED: All states with the exceptions of counties that share boundaries with Tennessee.

MATERIALS REGULATED: Any kindling, logs, boards, timbers, or other wood, split or not split four (4) feet or less in length, advertised, offered for sale, or sold as fuel.

All firewood entering Tennessee must be heat treated to 160°F for 75 minutes. Firewood must be labeled as heat treated with the name and address of manufacturer, county or counties of origin, state, quantity, and delivery date for bulk sales.

SWEET POTATO WEEVIL QUARANTINE

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-03.pdf>

PEST: Sweet potato weevil, *Cylas formicaris elegantulus* Summers

STATES REGULATED: AL, AK, FL, GA, HI, LA, NC, MS, PR, SC, TX

MATERIALS REGULATED: Sweet potato weevil in any living stage, sweet potato, *Ipomoea batatas* (L) Lam., and the genera *Ipomoea* and *Convolvulus*, any roots, plants, vines, cuttings, slips, draws and other vegetatively propagated parts, or other plants which may be hosts of the sweet potato weevil.

RESTRICTIONS: Sweet potatoes from regulated areas must be accompanied by a certificate issued by authorized inspector indicating sweet potatoes have not been exposed to sweet potato weevil, have been treated by known methods to destroy the sweet potato weevil or grown, produced, stored, or handled in such manner no infestation would be transmitted.

BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION RULE

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-22.pdf>

PEST: Boll Weevil, *Anthonomus grandis*

STATE REGULATED: All states or portions thereof infested with boll weevil.

MATERIALS REGULATED: The boll weevil, *Anthonomus grandis* Boheman, in any living stage of development; Gin Trash; Seed Cotton; Cotton Plants, bolls; Used cotton equipment; any other products, articles, means of conveyance, or any item whatsoever which is determined by the Commissioner to present a hazard in the spread of the boll weevil, and the person in possession of such item has been so notified.

RESTRICTIONS: a) Regulated items moving from a regulated area into or through the elimination area of the State of Tennessee shall be accompanied by a certificate or permit issued by an authorized regulatory official in the state where such article originated.

b) Regulated articles originating outside a regulated area may be moved into or through the elimination area of the State of Tennessee without a permit, if accompanied by documentation of their point of origin and if, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, such articles have been adequately protected from boll weevil infestation during movement through all regulated areas.

TURFGRASS

<http://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0080/0080-06/0080-06-04.pdf>

No turfgrass sod shall be sold, offered, stored, or held for sale, or transported within or into the State of Tennessee unless such stock shall have been certified as being essentially free of injurious plant pests, diseases, weeds, and mixtures of other grasses by a legally constituted agency designated for such purposes in the state, other states, territories, or countries. Uncertified turfgrass sod may be allowed to be moved within the state under a permit issued by the legally constituted agency designated for such purposes.