

Nursery News

May 2006

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Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Oregon's apple ermine moth quarantine repealed

Christy Brown, ODA horticulturist

Oregon's self-imposed apple ermine moth (AEM) quarantine was officially lifted on March 22, 2006, leaving nursery growers free to ship Malus nursery stock within Oregon or to other states without special certification. The state will no longer issue compliance agreements for the treatment and inspection of AEM host material. Shipping permit certificates for AEM can safely be thrown away or made into art.

A Eurasian pest, apple ermine moth's first North American detection was in British Columbia. The leaf defoliator moved southward until it was detected in much of Washington and in NW Oregon in 1991. Standard orchard treatment programs protected fruit growers from significant populations of AEM, but heavy infestations were detected in some Oregon locations on wild or untreated *Malus* plants. ODA enacted the AEM quarantine

to protect the Oregon nursery trade from this potentially damaging insect. It has been 14 years since the quarantine was adopted, and it appears to no longer be necessary. The insect has not become a significant pest where it does occur, and other states are not expected to impose a quarantine on *Malus* stock from Oregon.

For nurseries that ship or plan to ship *Malus* stock to Canada (other than British Columbia), it is important that you work with your ODA horticulturist to meet Canadian import requirements. Currently there are three ways to certify AEM host material for shipment into Canada from Oregon:

1. The plants are cultivated in an area free of apple ermine moth based on an official inspection and trapping program. The following 16 counties meet this criterion: Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Sherman, Tillamook, Union, Willamette, and Wheeler. In the near future, this criterion may not be met if trapping surveys do not remain current.
2. The plants are fumigated with methyl bromide according to the Canadian treatment schedule, and treatment is noted on the phytosanitary certificate.
3. The plants are free of apple ermine moth based on a chemical control and inspection program. The requirements of this Canadian program match those of the now-defunct ODA compliance agreement. Arrangements will have to be made on an individual nursery basis with nursery inspectors to ensure that requirements are being met.

Note: *Malus* stock being shipped to British Columbia is exempt from AEM regulations.

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2006 annual *Phytophthora ramorum* survey update

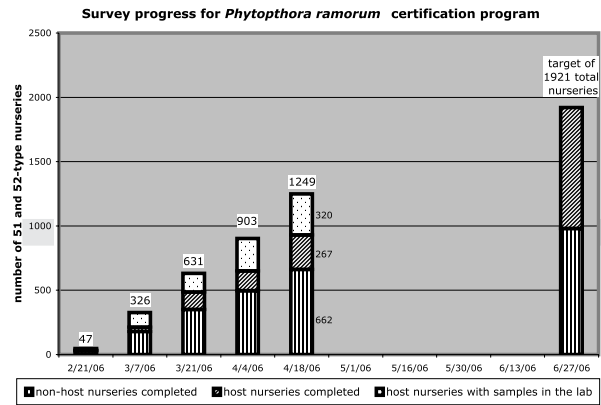
Christy Brown, ODA horticulturist

On February 14, 2006, the ODA Plant Division began fieldwork for the second annual USDA *P. ramorum* certification survey. Seventeen survey technicians were dispatched for a period of 10 weeks to inspect all greenhouse and grower nurseries (51 and 52-type nurseries) in the state. At the end of April all but four of those technicians will be reclaimed by the Plant Division's insect trapping program. ODA nursery inspectors will help complete the survey in May and June. The goal is to complete all surveys and testing in June. Federal compliance agreements will be mailed June 1 to eligible nurseries. The 2005 compliance agreements expire June 30, 2006.

Survey progress is monitored biweekly. On April 18th, roughly halfway through the survey season, the reported numbers suggest the program is on target for completion by the June deadline. Field surveys are 65 percent complete. Of the 1,249 nurseries inspected, 662 are non-host nurseries and 587 are host nurseries. Lab results are complete for 267 of the host nurseries.

To date, *P. ramorum* had been confirmed at four nurseries. Two of the positive nurseries were in Lane County, one in Polk and the other in Washington County. More than 23,000 delimitation samples were collected from the four nurseries for testing. As priority was placed on completing delimitation surveys for positive nurseries, certification testing was temporarily placed on hold until all delimitation samples were tested. The laboratory is currently working overtime and has brought in extra help to catch up on the certification survey samples.

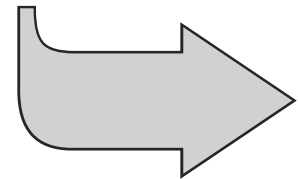
The federal order dictating the annual *P. ramorum* certification program was adopted on December 21, 2004, and will sunset on December 31, 2007. ODA and Oregon Association of Nurseries are working together with officials from Washington, California, and the USDA to determine the best course of action after the sunset.



The host list is growing

Christy Brown, ODA horticulturist

In January 2005 the ODA was planning for the first federal *Phytophthora ramorum* certification survey. At that time there were 64 plants on the USDA list of regulated hosts and plants associated with *P. ramorum*. Today, less than a year and a half later, there are 100 hosts and associated plants listed. Here is a list of the 36 additions.



If you are currently a non-host greenhouse or grower nursery it would be a good idea to keep abreast of this list of regulated plants. Should your status change to "host nursery" during the course of the year you will need to be sampled for *Phytophthora ramorum*. With negative test results you would then sign a compliance agreement, which would bring you into compliance with the federal order.

The list can always be checked at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ispmp/pramorom>

Hosts

Species name	common name
<i>Adiantum aleuticum</i>	western maidenhair fern
<i>Adiantum jordanii</i>	California maidenhair fern
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>	griselinia
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian ironwood
<i>Rhamnus californica</i>	California coffeeberry

Plants associated with *P. ramorum*

Species name	common name
<i>Abies concolor</i>	white fir
<i>Abies magnifica</i>	red fir
<i>Acer circinatum</i>	vine maple
<i>Acer davidii</i>	striped bark maple
<i>Acer laevigatum</i>	evergreen maple
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	planetree maple
<i>Arctostaphylos columbiana</i>	manzanita
<i>Ardisia japonica</i>	ardisia
<i>Calycanthus occidentalis</i>	spicebush
<i>Euonymus kiautschovicus</i>	spreading euonymus
<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Oregon ash
<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	salal
<i>Hamamelis x intermedia</i>	hybrid witchhazel
<i>Hamamelis mollis</i>	Chinese witchhazel
<i>Leucothoe axillaris</i>	fetterbush
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	southern magnolia
<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	star magnolia
<i>Magnolia x loebneri</i>	Loebner magnolia
<i>Magnolia x soulangeana</i>	saucer magnolia
<i>Michelia doltsopa</i>	michelia
<i>Michelia maudiae</i>	michelia
<i>Michelia wilsonii</i>	michelia
<i>Osmorhiza berteroi</i>	sweet cicely
<i>Osmanthus decorus</i>	osmanthus
<i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	Portuguese laurel cherry
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	sessile oak
<i>Rosa 'Meidiland'</i>	rose hybrid
<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	rugosa rose
<i>Taxus x media</i>	yew
<i>Torreya californica</i>	California nutmeg
<i>Vancouveria planipetala</i>	redwood ivy

Permit required for interstate trade of *Imperata cylindrica*

Contributed by Kristian C. Rondeau, SITC Officer

In recent months the USDA's Smuggling Interdiction, and Trade Compliance (SITC) program has been made aware that numerous Oregon nurseries have been shipping a common landscape plant known as *Imperata cylindrica* to other states. This plant, also known as 'Japanese blood grass' or 'Red Baron' happens to be on the federal noxious weed list and requires a permit (PPQ Form 526) for interstate movement.

In 1999 interstate movement provisions of the noxious weed regulations were established. Permits are required for interstate movement of *I. cylindrica* of any variety, but only the sterile cultivars qualify for permits for horticultural use. The fertile wild type is permitted **only** for research in inspected containment facilities. A permit is required for interstate movement of *I. cylindrica* if the recipient state is in concurrence with that movement. If the recipient state is not in concurrence, interstate movement is prohibited.

States in concurrence:

CA, CO, CT, IL, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, NE, NV, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, VA, WA, WI

States that do not concur:

AL, AK, AZ, AR, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MS, MT, NH, NJ, NM, ND, SC, SD, TX, UT, VT, WV, WY

Permit applications are available at the USDA website at: www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/permits

If you have any questions please contact your local ODA nursery inspector or:

USDA Pest Permit Evaluations
Telephone 301-734-8646
Toll Free 866-524-5421

Certification of apple, crabapple, and cherry trees to California

Gary Garth, ODA horticulturist

A certificate of quarantine compliance (CQC) is needed for shipment of *Malus* (apple or crabapple) and *Prunus* (fruit or flowering cherry) nursery stock to meet California's exterior quarantine requirements. There have been some rejections this spring from California counties due to uncertified crabapple trees. The pests of concern are fruit flies: *Rhagoletis pomonella* (apple maggot), and *Rhagoletis indifferens* and *R. fausta* (cherry fruit flies). The maggot larvae of these pests infest host fruit and then pupate in the soil. Pupae within the soil may remain viable for two to three years, therefore all soil from within the dripline of any fertile host is considered a regulated article. This includes soil in both balled & burlaped and containerized host nursery stock. The specific procedures for meeting quarantine requirements are listed below.

Emergency fund fee to be implemented

Bev Clark, ODA horticulturist

The Oregon Department of Agriculture is proposing to implement Oregon Law Chapter 540 that creates a plant pest and disease emergency fund. Senate Bill 785 was introduced in the last legislative session at the request of the Oregon Association of Nurseries and was passed and signed by the Governor. Money collected will be used by the department in consultation with the State Nursery Research and Regulatory Committee to respond to emergencies. The fund will be capped at \$250,000 and will be replenished through a surcharge on nursery license fees. This fee will be in addition to the annual license fee and research assessment fee currently charged to nurseries. The expected end of federal subsidies for *Phytophthora ramorum* testing and certification after 2007 highlights the importance of having such a contingency fund.

The proposed surcharge for 2006 will be 0.0002 of annual sales with a minimum of \$10. Small nurseries with less than \$20,000 in annual sales will pay the minimum. The assessment will not exceed .0002 of annual sales and will be adjusted annually to maintain a fund balance of \$250,000.

Apple Maggot Quarantine No. 3266

1. This quarantine applies only to the following 16 counties (roughly between LA and San Francisco): Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus, Tulare and Ventura.
2. All *Malus* nursery stock must be free of fruit.
3. Bareroot trees are exempt, but must be free of fruit and "bareroot" condition stated on shipping documents.
4. Trees that have been barerooted and containerized in clean growing media (not exposed to apple maggot infestation) would be admissible.
5. A multi-year program of fruit stripping prior to July 15 may also qualify for shipment, however would be quite involved due to proliferation of fruit set in crabapple varieties. See your nursery inspector for prior approval.

Cherry Fruit Fly Quarantine No. 3256

1. This quarantine applies to the entire state of California.
2. All flowering cherry trees must be free of fruit. Non-host *Prunus* spp. (laurel, plums, peaches etc.) need not be certified, but should have common names listed on shipping documents.
3. Bareroot trees are exempt, but must be free of fruit and "bareroot" condition noted on the invoice.
4. Freshly potted bareroot trees also qualify for shipment.
5. A fruit-stripping program is a valid option for field grown or container plants. Many cultivars are truly sterile, however some varieties or species (such as 'snow fountain,' 'Yoshino,' 'Canada red,' etc.) are fertile and will set fruit depending upon the year, age of plants, etc. Some of the fruit may slough off or get eaten by birds prior to maturity. Growers should notify ODA of their intention to strip off all fruit present prior to July 1 and call for an inspection to verify that the fruit is absent. This procedure will enable certification for the following shipping season.

Shipping to Canada

Checklist of plants requiring Canadian Import Permit

Christy Brown, ODA horticulturist

To expedite certification and the issuance of a phytosanitary certificate, it is helpful to review your paperwork prior to having an ODA inspector arrive. Check to see that any plants on the list below are named on the front page of your import permit (IP). Also check the expiration date to ensure that the IP is still valid. If your shipment contains **no** plants on the list below, you can ship without an IP, but you will still need a federal phytosanitary certificate. Remember that a phytosanitary certificate to Canada is valid at the border for only 14 days after the date of inspection.

Genera in boldface require enrollment in a special certification program through ODA to meet Canadian requirements.

Genus	common name
<i>Abies</i>	fir
<i>Allium</i>	garlic, onion, etc.
<i>Berberis</i>	barberry
<i>Castanea / Castanopsis</i>	chestnut / chinquapin
<i>Chaenomeles / Cydonia</i>	flowering quince / quince
<i>Chrysanthemum (& kin)</i>	chrysanthemum
<i>Corylus</i>	filbert
<i>Crataegus</i>	hawthorn
<i>Gaylussacia</i>	huckleberry
<i>Juniperus</i>	juniper
<i>Larix / Pseudolarix</i>	larch / golden larch
<i>Mahoberberis / Mahonia</i>	mahonia, Oregon grape
<i>Malus</i>	apple, crabapple
<i>Picea</i>	spruce
<i>Pinus</i>	pine
<i>Prunus</i>	cherry, plum, peach, etc.
<i>Pseudotsuga</i>	Douglas fir
<i>Pyrus</i>	pear
<i>Quercus</i>	oak
<i>Rhamnus</i>	buckthorn
<i>Salix</i>	willow
<i>Ulmus / Zelkova</i>	elm
<i>Vaccinium</i>	blueberry, cranberry
<i>Vitis</i>	grape

Note: This list is partial. Plants that are unlikely to be shipped from Oregon to Canada have been left out. Also note that other regulations may apply to plants not on this list. Your nursery inspector will review your shipment requirements.

Cereal leaf beetle found in pines

Susan Schouten, ODA horticulturist

Earlier this spring a Willamette Valley nursery shipped some 24" to 30" *Pinus thunbergii* (Japanese black pines) to California. When they arrived at the receiving nursery, a cereal leaf beetle (CLB) was found in the shipment. California officials rejected the entire shipment of pines because CLB is a quarantine pest in that state.

Pinus thunbergii is not one of the three species of pines (*P. sylvestris*, *P. nigra* and *P. resinosa*) currently restricted from entering California because of their CLB quarantine. In this case California officials assumed the beetle encountered on the truck had traveled with the shipment from the Oregon nursery. Consequently, ODA was called in to investigate the potential "new host."

Five ODA officials surveyed the shipping nursery, including the *P. thunbergii* block the plants were pulled from, other nursery stock nearby and the surrounding grass seed fields. ODA inspectors used a beat survey technique (knocking pine branches over a white surface) to look for this pest. CLB were found on many of the *P. thunbergii* examined. Beetles were not found on nearby *Thuja*, other pines, spruce or fir. A single beetle was collected in the grass seed field nearby using a sweep net.

ODA concluded from this survey that CLB may congregate inside dense-foliaged, globose pines like the *P. thunbergii*, where dead needles lodged in the branches create shelter. Cereal leaf beetles are known to feed only on certain plants in the grass family, so it was assumed that beetles were just using the pines for shelter.

California officials reviewed the results of the survey conducted by ODA and concluded as well that the beetle had been only "hitching a ride." As a result, they indicated they do not have plans to regulate *P. thunbergii* under their CLB quarantine.

There is a lesson to learn in this experience; constant scouting should be done in the nursery to prevent shipping this kind of problem to other states. We all know that Oregon nursery stock is the best in the country. We should be constantly on guard against insect pest and disease problems to keep that reputation alive.

If you have questions regarding this pest or others, please call ODA at 503-986-4644 or visit the ODA Web site at <http://oregon.gov/ODA>.

Oregon Department of Agriculture
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Nursery and Christmas Tree Program home page changes

Lisa Rehms, ODA horticulturist

The nursery and Christmas tree home page is getting a 'face-lift'. Our Web page, found at: <http://oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/NURSERY>, is undergoing various modifications to make it more user friendly to the nursery and Christmas tree industries. One of the big changes, which is still under construction, is a profile section on pests and pathogens. Each pest and disease profile will eventually contain an introduction, a brief description and current Oregon regulations for each organism. From the nursery homepage, look for the 'pest and disease profiles' section on the left navigation bar. Click the common name of the organism to see the individual profiles. Another new item on our home page is the 'nursery research grants' section. The Oregon Department of Agriculture funds the nursery and Christmas tree research grant programs. Nurseries and Christmas tree growers help fund this program with the purchase of a license. Eventually, the Christmas tree grant final reports will be listed on the home page. You can see final reports for the 2005 nursery grants by clicking on 'grants' at the left navigation bar of the nursery home page. Yet another helpful item found on our home page is the 'fees and costs' section. This section describes the various costs for nursery and Christmas tree licenses, phytosanitary certificates, quarantine compliance certificates, survey programs, and laboratory fees. The fees and cost section is also listed on the left navigation bar of the nursery home page. You can reach any of the inspectors via e-mail from the contact us page. Scroll down to the section called 'horticulturist' and click on any name. Questions and comments by way of the Web site are welcome. Please send your comments via e-mail to lrehms@oda.state.or.us