

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2011-38
July 8, 2011

SUBJECT: Federal Quarantine Order for Commercial Shipments of Rice from Countries with Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is issuing this Federal Order to prevent the entry of Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts) into the United States.

Khapra beetle (KB) is a serious pest of storage products, spices, and various dried foodstuffs including rice and other grains. In 2010 and 2011, several detections of Khapra beetle were made on commercial rice originating from or transiting through countries where Khapra beetle is found. To prevent the entry of this pest therefore, commercial shipments of rice from countries where Khapra beetle is found will be allowed entry into the United States only if accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate or reexport certificate with an Additional Declaration stating: "The shipment was inspected and found free of Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*.)" A Phytosanitary Certificate or reexport certificate with the same Additional Declaration as above will also be required for commercial shipments of rice that originate in a country that has Khapra beetle and that makes entry into any other country that then reexports the shipment to the United States. The means of conveyance will also be inspected and found free of Khapra beetle.

These actions are consistent with the International Plant Protection Convention, and are necessary to restrict the movement of articles that serve as a pathway for this destructive pest.

This Federal Order will be effective on July 30, 2011.

For more information about APHIS' response to Khapra beetle detections in commercial shipments of imported rice, you may contact Quarantine Policy Analysis and Support Staff at (301) 734-8295.

/s/ Rebecca A. Bech

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

FEDERAL ORDER

Exotic quarantine pest Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts)

July 8, 2011

The purpose and goal of this Federal Order (FO) is to prevent the entry or introduction into the United States of the exotic quarantine pest Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts). Khapra beetle is one of the world's most destructive pests of grain, grain products, and seeds. It is considered one of the 100 worst invasive species in the world. This FO is issued pursuant to the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a), which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction into the United States or the dissemination of a plant pest or noxious weed within the United States.

Commercial shipments of rice originating from countries that have Khapra beetle have been found infested with Khapra beetle numerous times, between November 4, 2010, and the present. Previous infestations of Khapra beetle in the United States have resulted in massive, long-term control and eradication efforts, at great cost and causing considerable disruption to industry. Established infestations are difficult to control because the beetle survives without food for long periods of time, requires little moisture, hides in tiny cracks and crevices for long periods, and is relatively tolerant to many insecticides and fumigants. Therefore, it is imperative to prevent the introduction or establishment of Khapra beetle in the United States.

This quarantine action is necessary because the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has determined that the introduction and establishment of Khapra beetle poses a serious threat to stored agricultural products, including spices, grains, packaged foods and other stored foods.

To prevent the introduction of this harmful plant pest into the United States, the APHIS Administrator has determined that commercial shipments of rice from countries that have Khapra beetle must be inspected and must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate or a Phytosanitary Certificate of Reexport, with an Additional Declaration stating that "The shipment was inspected and found free of Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*)."

A Phytosanitary Certificate or Phytosanitary Certificate of Reexport with the same Additional Declaration as above will also be required for commercial shipments of rice that originate in countries that have Khapra beetle and that make entry into any other country that then reexports the shipment to the United States. The Phytosanitary Certificate is the first step, and an accepted measure, to allow the NPPO an opportunity to inspect the shipment and ensure that it is free of pests. The means of conveyance will also be inspected and found free of Khapra beetle.

This Federal Order will be effective on July 30, 2011.

Restricted Article:

Commercial shipments of rice, *Oryza sativa* or *Oryza spp.*

Infested countries:

All countries that have Khapra beetle: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Cyprus, Egypt, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Upper Volta (Burkina Faso).