

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2011-39
July 8, 2011

SUBJECT: Federal Quarantine Order for Non-Commercial Shipments of Rice from Countries with Khapra beetle

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 from passengers carrying non-commercial rice originating from countries where Khapra beetle is known to occur. To prevent the entry of this pest therefore, non-commercial shipments of rice from countries that have Khapra beetle will be prohibited.

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*)

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 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.

Non-commercial quantities of rice carried by passengers from several countries have been found infested with live Khapra beetle on numerous occasions in 2010 and 2011. Previous detections of Khapra beetle have resulted in massive, long term control and eradication efforts at great cost. 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 it is relatively resistant to many insecticides and fumigants. Therefore, it is imperative to prevent the introduction or establishment of the 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 non-commercial quantities of rice from countries where Khapra beetle is known to occur will be prohibited from entering the United States.

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

Restricted Article:

Non-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).