

Gearing up for Japanese Beetle Quarantine Compliance
What's Going on 'Behind the Scenes?'"
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News is spreading of Colorado's Japanese Beetle Quarantine. Thanks to all of you for helping notify your suppliers. Calls and emails to the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) from quarantined States' Departments of Agriculture and nurseries are on the increase. Those inquiries and questions are definitely welcomed and help us identify the areas of confusion that still surround our JB quarantine. Below are some points of clarification and a sample of what is going on 'behind the scenes' so that we have as little negative impact on nursery trade as possible.

What plant material is NOT under quarantine (i.e. unrestricted)?

- All bare-root plant material
- Anything with a root ball or container smaller than 12" in diameter (except ornamental grasses)

This means that the material listed above can come into Colorado from a quarantined State without a phytosanitary certificate. Our inspectors will not be looking for documentation on these types of plants.

Ornamental grasses and sedges

- Ornamental grasses of any size can only enter our State if they meet our criteria:
 - The Genera of: *Andropogon, Brizas, Chasmanthium, Deschampsia, Imperata, Koeleria, Panicum, Phalaris, Schizachyrium, Sorghastrum and Carex* must be treated (dipped) with the insecticide bifenthrin or chlorpyrifos. Drench treatments do not meet the criteria.
 - Other ornamental grass Genera (not listed above) may be certified under the containerized nursery stock program.

Compliance agreements

Many states under quarantine have approached us at CDA to see if they might be able to use a compliance agreement in place of the traditional phytosanitary certificate. The answer is 'yes'.

A compliance agreement is a contract between the shipper (nursery) and the regulatory authority in the quarantined state. This contract states the terms, methods and conditions by which the shipper will be meeting Colorado's quarantine criteria. For example, three nurseries in Kansas will be using this type of agreement. The document you see from these nurseries will state that

the Kansas Department of Agriculture certifies that the named nursery is meeting Colorado's JB quarantine. On those documents the specific type of JB quarantine protocol the nursery is following is documented, i.e. negative trapping, treatment, etc. In essence the compliance agreement we are allowing is issued once a year in comparison to a phytosanitary certificate which is issued each time a load leaves the state of origin. Compliance agreements can save the grower a lot of time and money; while at the same time it assures Colorado that the shipper is in compliance. If there is a discrepancy in the paperwork, we can still follow up with the parties involved.

Make sure you save all the documentation that accompanies shipments from quarantined States. **Here's what CDA inspectors will be looking for during JB records inspections:**

- 1) Date stock was received;
- 2) Name and address of business from which stock was purchased;
- 3) Kind and type of nursery stock (including common name and genus and species names);
- 4) Amount of nursery stock received;
- 5) Size of container or root ball;
- 6) The quarantine criteria or protocol the shipper is following.

A phytosanitary certificate lists all this information (number 1 – 6, above) in one document whereas *compliance agreements* only list the criteria followed (number 6). Make sure you keep documentation that allows our inspectors to track when the stock came in, who it was from, what kind and size the plant material was *and* the quarantine protocol the shipment complied with.

Other States that are asking to use compliance agreements include Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, and Wisconsin.