

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY



The Division of Plant Industry's Bureau of Plant and Apiary Inspection is here to serve and protect Florida's agricultural industry. It is essential that the Division continue to work with the industry to maintain Florida's outstanding reputation as a leading producer of agricultural products.



1-800-282-5153
www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi

Any person who fails to comply with any provision of Florida's nursery inspection laws shall be subject to penalties as provided by sections 581.141 and 581.211, Florida statutes. Penalties may include confiscation of uncertified plant material, fines and/or criminal prosecution.

REVISED 2008 DACS-P-00187

PLANT REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION

PROTECTING FLORIDA'S AGRICULTURE



Division of
PLANT INDUSTRY
Fresh Florida. *Protection through Detection*
Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner

FLORIDA NURSERY LAW

Anyone selling or distributing nursery stock must be registered with the Division of Plant Industry. Prior to being moved, nursery stock must be inspected by a division plant protection specialist. Florida plant producers must deal only in nursery stock that has been inspected and certified by the Division of Plant Industry.

INSPECTION TAGS

A valid inspection tag issued by the Division of Plant Industry is required on:

- Each movement or shipment of nursery stock intended for resale within the state.
- All out-of-state movements.
- Every separate package, bundle, box or container of nursery stock that is shipped by the mail, express, common carrier, etc., whether out-of-state or in state.
- All citrus nursery stock sold or distributed directly to Florida consumers for use as ornamental or dooryard plantings, and must include the Certificate of Registration number on each plant.



IMPORTS

Since exclusion of plant pests has always been the best possible solution to preventing pest problems, considerable emphasis is placed on inspection of plants entering the state. As a major importer of nursery stock from foreign countries, Florida is particularly vulnerable to plant pest introductions. Its extensive agricultural industry and its broad range of climatic conditions provide an ideal environment for establishment of new plant pests and diseases.

Your cooperation in contacting your local inspector upon the arrival of plants from out-of-state is greatly appreciated, particularly those plants from California, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. If you notice anything unusual on any imports, please bring this to the attention of your local inspector.

EXPORTS

Shipments of nursery stock outside the U.S. require special inspections and certifications. Some special requirements include nematode certification, imported permits, chemical treatments, etc.

After all the necessary requirements are met, at least 48 hours notice must be given before a Phytosanitary Export Certificate can be issued. At the time of notice, the following information is necessary:

- Complete address of consignee
- Botanical name and number of plants
- Number and types of containers
- Means of conveyance
- Port of entry
- Copy of Import Permit, if required

Plants must be isolated and free from pests and diseases at the time of inspection.



NEMATODE CERTIFICATION

Texas, California, Louisiana, Arizona and some foreign countries have certain nematode restrictions which must be met before Florida nursery stock may be certified for shipment. Nematode certifications involve a field inspection and laboratory analysis. Prior notice is needed due to the four-to-six-week time frame required to process soil and root samples. Contact the nematode regulatory specialist in your area for further information.

FIRE ANT CERTIFICATION



An Imported Fire Ant certificate may be required for plants shipped out of Florida. For further information concerning Imported Fire Ant regulations, contact your local inspector.