

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2024-47
December 4, 2024

Subject: APHIS Establishes Box Tree Moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) Quarantines in Delaware and Pennsylvania

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with the Delaware Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA), is adding the entire State of Delaware and Erie County, Pennsylvania to the box tree moth (BTM; *Cydalima perspectalis*) quarantined area.

APHIS is taking this action in response to the confirmed detections of BTM in a residence in Little Creek, Delaware, on July 11 and in Lakeside Cemetery in Erie, Erie County, Pennsylvania, on August 29. PDA has established an intrastate quarantine area for BTM that parallels the Federal quarantine. This Federal Order supersedes Federal Order DA-2024-17.

To prevent the spread of BTM, APHIS considers it necessary to regulate the interstate movement of regulated articles of boxwood from quarantined areas. Boxwood plants may only be moved interstate from a quarantined area from an establishment operating under a compliance agreement, and only if accompanied by a certificate issued by a state agricultural authority certifying that the requirements of this Federal Order and the compliance agreement have been met. These requirements will prevent producers and distributors of boxwood from moving infested plants interstate. State agricultural authorities may prescribe additional safeguards and protocols.

APHIS prohibits movement of all other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

The attached Federal Order and additional information about BTM are located on the [APHIS box tree moth webpage](#). For additional information, you may contact:

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Dr. Mark L Davidson
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

**United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine**

Federal Order

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Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with the Delaware Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA), is adding the entire State of Delaware and Erie County, Pennsylvania to the box tree moth (BTM; *Cydalima perspectalis*) quarantined areas.

APHIS is taking this action in response to the confirmed detections of BTM in a residence in Little Creek, Delaware, on July 11, and in Lakeside Cemetery in Erie, Erie County, Pennsylvania, on August 29. PDA has established an intrastate quarantine area for BTM that parallels the Federal quarantine. This Federal Order supersedes Federal Order DA-2024-17.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a). The Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States.

To prevent the spread of BTM, APHIS considers it necessary to regulate the interstate movement of regulated articles of boxwood from quarantined areas.

Boxwood plants may only be moved interstate from a quarantined area from an establishment operating under a compliance agreement, and only if accompanied by a certificate issued by a State agricultural authority certifying that the requirements of this Federal Order and the compliance agreement have been met. These requirements will prevent producers and distributors of boxwood from moving infested plants interstate. State agricultural authorities may prescribe additional safeguards and protocols.

APHIS prohibits movement of all other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

This Federal Order and additional information about BTM are located on the [APHIS box tree moth webpage](#). For additional information, please contact the National Policy Manager, Matthew Travis, at matthew.a.travis@usda.gov or 580-240-5394.

A. Quarantined Areas

The Administrator may designate a whole state or an area less than an entire state if the Administrator determines, as in this case, that the designation of less than an entire state is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of BTM. In addition, the Administrator may quarantine less than an entire state if it is determined that the affected state enforces equivalent restrictions and regulations for intrastate movement that effectively mitigate the spread of the pest.

APHIS has designated the following areas as quarantined areas for BTM:

Delaware: The entire State.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts: The entire State.

Michigan: All of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties.

New York: All of Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Clinton, Cortland, Erie, Franklin, Genesee, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston, Madison, Monroe, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins, Saint Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates Counties.

Ohio: All of Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties, as well as the portions of Montgomery County to the south of Interstate 70; and the portions of Greene County that are west of SR 68 to the north of Xenia, and west of interstate 42 to the south of Xenia.

Pennsylvania: All of Erie County.

B. Regulated Articles

Regulated articles include the whole plant, all plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

C. Conditions for Movement of Regulated Articles

No person may move interstate any regulated article from any quarantined area except in accordance with this Federal Order.

Boxwood plants may only be moved interstate from a quarantined area from an establishment operating under a compliance agreement, and only if accompanied by a certificate issued by a State Agricultural Authority certifying that the requirements of this Federal Order and the compliance agreement have been met.

All other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes APHIS prohibits all other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes, from movement.

D. Definitions

Administrator. The Administrator of APHIS, or any person authorized to act for the Administrator.

Certificate. A document, stamp, or other means of identification issued by an inspector or person operating under a compliance agreement when he or she finds that, because of certain conditions, a regulated article can be moved safely from an area quarantined for BTM, without spreading the pest.

Compliance Agreement. A written agreement between the state agriculture authority and a person engaged in the business of growing, maintaining, processing, handling, packing, or moving regulated articles for interstate movement, in which the person agrees to comply with specific requirements.

Inspector. An individual authorized to determine the eligibility of plants for interstate movement.

Interstate. From any state into or through any other state.

Quarantined Area. Any state, or any portion of a state, listed in this Federal Order.

Regulated Article. *Buxus* spp., commonly called boxwood. The whole plant, all plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

State Agriculture Authority. A state agency that regulates agriculture, natural resources, and related issues.