
IMPORT/EXPORT REGULATIONS ON OAK PLANTS AND SEED

by Kenneth Kruse

Most countries throughout the world have regulations specifying pest free conditions that have to be met before oak plants and seed (acorns) can make entry into another country. In addition, all states in the United States have regulations governing the movement of oak plants interstate from one state into another. Several states have oak wilt quarantines regulating oak plant movement.

The following is provided to identify the basic requirements for international and interstate movement of oak plants and acorns. Also provided are the names, addresses and telephone numbers of state and federal regulatory officials.

To apply for Departmental Permit, Import Permit, or Agreement for Postentry Quarantine, submit PPQ 587, Application for Permit to Import Plants or Plant Products to the Permit Unit. You may request PPQ Form 587 from your state PPQ Office or by writing the Permit Unit at the address located in the lower right corner of the PPQ Form 587.

A. International movement of oak plants or acorns into the United States

Oak plants

Japan: All plants are prohibited due to *Stereum hiugense* (white rot), a gall-forming rust. Departmental Permits are granted to universities and research institutions for plants which are normally prohibited, or as a waiver to normal import conditions where there is a legitimate research project. Requests for Departmental Permits can be made to the Permit Unit.

Canada: All plants must be accompanied by a Canadian Phytosanitary Certificate confirming the plants are free from pests and diseases.

All other countries require the following:

1. A valid, state approved, Postentry Growing Agreement (PPA Form 546). The quarantine period may be up to a period of two years.
2. A valid import permit (PPQ Form 597). Import Permits can be obtained free of charge from the Permit Unit by submitting a PPQ Form 587.
3. Must be imported through an APHIS Plant Inspections Station where the plants will be inspected. The plants must be free from plant pests, diseases, and contaminants such as soil or other growing media.

Oak Seed

Japan: Acorns are prohibited. Departmental Permits are granted to universities and research institutions for acorns which are normally prohibited or a waiver to normal import conditions where there is a legitimate research project. Requests for De

partmental Permits can be made to the to the Permit Unit.

Canada: Must be accompanied by a Canadian Phytosanitary Certificate confirming the seeds are Canadian and free from pests and diseases.

Mexico: Importers must have valid import permit (PPQ 597). Import permit can be obtained free of charge from the Permit Unit by submitting a PPQ Form 587. Must also be imported through an APHIS Plant Import Station.

All other countries other than Japan, Canada and Mexico:

1. Importer must have a valid import permit (PPQ Form 597). Import Permit Unit by submitting a PPQ 587.
2. Must be imported through an APHIS Plant Inspection Station where the acorns will be fumigated with Methyl bromide under a 26 inch vacuum.

If you will be receiving material (acorns) through the mail, request a "green and yellow" label from the Permit Unit. The green and yellow label will direct your shipment to the nearest APHIS Plant Inspection Station and the material will be forwarded to you after inspection/fumigation is complete.

B. International Movement of Oak Plants and/or Acorns from the United States to Foreign Countries

Contact your state or federal regulatory official who will direct you to the responsible official for making decisions whether the specific requirements of a foreign country can be met when shipping oak plants or acorns from your state. If requirements can be met, a Phytosanitary Certificate authorizing the movement will be issued.

C. Interstate Movement of Oak Plants into Another State

The movement of oak plants from one state into another (interstate movement) is regulated by state nursery laws. In addition, several states, including Oregon, Louisiana and Florida have Oak Wilt Quarantines. For information and guidance, contact your state regulatory official.⁵

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⁵Editor's Note: For all members in the United States please see inserted Federal and State Regulatory Officials listing.