

BULBS

The regulations in 7 CFR 319.37-1 define “bulb” as “the portion of a plant commonly known as a bulb, bulbil, bulblet, corm, cormel, rhizome, tuber, or pip, and including fleshy roots or other underground fleshy growths, a unit of which produces an individual plant.” Bulbs are subject to inspection and will be treated if plant pests of quarantine significance are found. Most dormant bulbs do not require a written permit for entry. Articles that are sprouting or that have above ground portions attached require a permit if the lot contains 13 or more articles. Mail shipments may be addressed directly to the recipient. Such parcels must be plainly labeled to identify the contents as plant bulbs.

Certificates

Bulbs must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the plant protection service of the country of origin, including an additional declaration for freedom of potato cyst nematodes from specified countries. See 7 CFR 319-37-5 (a) for the list of countries. Bulbs from the Netherlands do not require a phytosanitary certificate if they are accompanied by a special certificate that lists a serial number, the scientific name of the bulb, the country of its origin, and a date on which the special certificate expires. The serial number must refer to a phytosanitary certificate held by the national plant protection organization of the Netherlands. The expiration date must be 6 weeks after the issuance of the phytosanitary certificate.

Preclearance

Preclearance is the phytosanitary inspection and/or clearance in the country in which the articles were grown, performed by or under the regular supervision of APHIS. Customs and Border Protection Officials may make integrity and compliance checks on any precleared shipment. APHIS personnel performing the preclearance inspection may collect the phytosanitary certificate and CITES documents, if applicable.

Bulbs That Require a Written Permit

The following do require a permit:

- Bulbs of *Allium sativum* (garlic), *Crocasmia* spp. (Montebretia), *Gladiolus* spp. (Gladiolus) and *Watsonia* spp. (bugle lily) from New Zealand.
- *Allium sativum* (garlic) bulbs from Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Morocco, Portugal,

Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Republic of South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan require both a written permit and treatment.

- Bulbs protected by CITES (for example, *Bletia* spp., *Bletilla* spp., *Cyclamen* spp., *Galanthus* spp., *Pecteilis radiata*, and *Sternbergia* spp.) require a Protected Plant Permit and CITES documents. See <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.shtml> for a complete list.
- Articles showing signs of new growth (i.e., not dormant) or having above ground portions attached, when the lot contains more than 12 articles.

Other Bulb Restrictions

- Bulbs of *Crocasmia*, *Gladiolus* and *Watsonia* are prohibited from Africa, Argentina and Uruguay. Noncommercial shipments of these genera are also prohibited from Brazil, France, Italy, Malta, Mauritius and Portugal.
- Bulbs of *Homeria* spp. (also known as *Moraea collina* Thunberg (apricot tulip), *Moraea flaccida* (Sweet) Steudel (one-leaf Cape-tulip), *Moraea miniata* Andrews (two-leaf Cape-tulip), *Moraea ochroleuca* (Salisbury) Drapiez (red tulip) and *Moraea pallida* (Baker) Goldblatt (yellow tulip) are prohibited because they are Federal noxious weeds.
- Bulbs must be free from soil.

The Plant Protection and Quarantine Port of Entry Manual for Nursery Stock includes a list of genera and species that have underground parts that conform to the definition of bulb contained in 319.37-1. The list includes both bulbs and dormant perennials, which are included within the current definition of bulb. The difference, for regulatory purposes, is that bulbs that are not precleared may enter any port for inspection, whereas dormant perennials that are not precleared must enter through a port with a Plant Inspection Station. To view this list, you can access the Plant Protection and Quarantine manuals on the Internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals/port/port_index.html. Click on “Port programs”, then “Nursery Stock Restrictions”. After the manual loads, find the last section, “Bulbs and Underground Portions of Dormant Perennials”.