

**FEDERAL DOMESTIC QUARANTINE ORDER:
Gladiolus Rust (*Uromyces transversalis*)**

July 16, 2009

The purpose and goal of this Federal Order is to prevent the spread of the plant pest disease Gladiolus Rust (GR) *Uromyces transversalis* through regulatory authority provided by Section 412(a) of the Plant Protection Act (PPA) of June 20, 2000, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 7712(a), which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States and also by Section 414 of the PPA which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to hold, seize, quarantine, treat, apply other remedial measures to, destroy, or otherwise dispose of any plant, plant pest, plant product, article, or means of conveyance if the Secretary considers it necessary in order to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest that is new to or not known to be widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States.

The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) considers it necessary, in order to prevent the dissemination of GR in the United States, to establish regulatory restrictions on the interstate movement of GR host material from the quarantined area in Florida as described in this Federal Order.

A Federal Order was issued on January 9, 2009, establishing a quarantine for GR over affected commercial gladiolus farms in Clewiston, Hendry County, Florida and adding new provisions for measures in the field and post-harvest field treatments. This Federal Order keeps those provisions in place for the 2009-2010 growing and shipping season.

This Federal Order is necessary in order to prevent further pest dissemination from the premises located at Box 69 County Road 833 Clewiston, FL 33440 in the State of Florida. APHIS-PPQ and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry (FDACS DPI) have recently observed *Gladiolus* sp. plants, cut flowers, corm production plants and/or leaves at this premises that are infected with GR. Upon issuance of this Federal Order, any interstate movement of any regulated articles originating from this premise will only be allowed if the all of the requirements of this Federal Order are met in full and if the owner or agent of the premises enters into in a compliance agreement with APHIS as required by this Order.

GR is not widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States. Therefore, in order to prevent the further dissemination and spread of *Gladiolus* sp. plants, cut flowers, corms and leaves infested with GR from the described quarantined area, all *Gladiolus* sp. plants, cut flowers, corms and leaves originating from the quarantined area are restricted from moving interstate from the farm premises. Interstate movement will be permitted only if all of the following measures are put into place and are completely and fully complied with prior to the further shipment of gladiolus plant material (corms, stems, flowers, leaves, etc.) from the premises located at Box 69 County Road 833 Clewiston, FL 33440.

This Federal Order imposes quarantine on less than the entire State of Florida, for Gladiolus Rust since the APHIS Administrator has determined that this limited quarantine in Hendry county, FL, is sufficient at this time to prevent the dissemination and spread of GR in the United States.

I. QUARANTINE FOR GLADIOLUS RUST (*Uromyces transversalis*) DISEASE

1. Quarantined Area. The following areas are quarantined due to the presence of GR.

Florida:

The premises located at Box 69 County Road 833 Clewiston, FL 33440, in Hendry County, FL.

2. Restricted Articles.

All live, green and/or infected or exposed gladiolus plants and plant parts (including corms, stems, flowers, leaves, etc.).

The APHIS Administrator may allow the interstate movement of restricted gladiolus plant material if it has been grown, produced, manufactured, stored, or handled in a manner that, in the judgment of the Administrator, prevents the restricted article from presenting a risk of spreading GR.

3. Requirements for Interstate Movement. In order to be eligible to move interstate from the quarantined area, regulated articles must meet all of the following requirements:

- A. Measures in the Field. While in the field, gladiolus plants must be grown under conditions that minimize the presence of GR, including:
 1. Disinfection. All equipment and personnel upon entering and leaving each separate land must be disinfected. Additionally, all personnel and farming equipment originating from properties which are currently or have been used for gladiolus production must be free of all soil and plant debris and be disinfected prior to moving into the 2009-2010 production fields.
 2. Fungicide. Once gladiolus plants have emerged, an appropriate and efficacious fungicide spray program designed to prevent gladiolus rust must be implemented. This fungicide spray program must be approved by APHIS PPQ prior to its implementation. A treatment schedule that includes a rotation of different preventative fungicides and identifies curative fungicides to be used in the event that gladiolus rust infected plants are found must also be provided to APHIS PPQ and FDACS for approval.
 3. Training. All farm personnel must receive training on the symptoms of gladiolus rust and the proper handling of gladiolus-rust infected plant material.
 4. Scouting. The grower must dedicate personnel to scout the fields regularly for symptoms of gladiolus rust and report all finds of gladiolus-rust infected plants to APHIS PPQ personnel within 24-h of the discovery.
 5. Detection of plants infected with gladiolus rust. Overhead sprinklers in the immediate area of the infected plant must be immediately discontinued. Within 24 hours of being detected, all infected plant(s) and all plants within a 2-meter radius must be removed from the field in sealed, leak-proof bags and disposed of by burial to a depth of at least 3-6 inches or at an approved disposal site. Alternate destruction measures may be included within the valid Compliance Agreement.

Treatment using curative fungicides, following label guidelines, must be done on all gladiolus plants within 12 meters of the infected plants. Workers (including clothes, hands, and shoes), the bag containing the infected plant material, tools used, and vehicles must be disinfected when leaving the infected field. When destruction, fungicide application, and disinfection are complete, but only after APHIS-PPQ or FDACS has inspected the premises and confirmed such compliance, the use of overhead sprinklers in the immediate area can resume.

6. Post-Harvest Field Treatments. As flower harvest is completed within a block/planting, the grower must follow one of the stipulated actions to reduce the amount of gladiolus rust host material in the environment:
 - i. If not harvesting corms, disk the remaining gladiolus plant material to a depth of at least 3-6 inches. Following disking, begin management practices for prevention and elimination of volunteer gladiolus plants.
 - ii. If planning to harvest corms, most to 8-10 inches in height, and continue monitoring for gladiolus rust until the final harvest of corms. To prevent the build up of gladiolus rust inoculum, continue treating fields with preventative fungicides (and curative fungicide if disease is present) following the guidelines on the label and the treatment schedule until corms are harvested and residual plant material is disked. Following the final harvest of corms, disk the remaining gladiolus plant material to a depth of at least 3-6 inches.

- B. Packinghouse procedures. If gladiolus rust is found in the fields from which flower stems are being harvested, the grower must implement additional measures approved by APHIS to ensure that the pest does not move interstate on processed floral stems. For plant material entering the packinghouse from infected fields, all leaves must be stripped, including the top two immature leaves that are located below the lowest flower on the stem. After all leaf material has been completely removed, stems must be dipped in Phyton 27® following the manufacturer's recommended concentration and duration of treatment. Bundled stems must be dipped such that all stems in the bundle are immersed in the fungicide solution from the end of the stem to the base of the lowest flower bract, ensuring that all stems in bundle are adequately exposed to the fungicide for the manufacturer's specified duration. All stripped leaf material must be disposed of either by burial or burning, within 24 hours of being stripped.

- C. Inspection. Gladiolus plant material must be examined by APHIS-PPQ or FDACS inspectors and certified by those inspectors to be free of Gladiolus Rust symptoms prior to movement from the packing house. The grower must provide an APHIS-approved designated area for inspection of processed floral bundles which includes an adequately-sized inspection area with proper lighting to adequately illuminate the inspection area, free from cart traffic, safety hazards, and major distractions.
 1. Plant stems will be examined by bundle and Gladiolus Rust determinations made by examining all stems within the bundle for symptoms.

2. If the APHIS-PPQ or FDACS officer finds Gladiolus Rust symptoms on any plant material, the entire bundle must be destroyed either by burial or burning, within 24 hours.
- D. Access for PPQ personnel. APHIS PPQ or FDACS personnel must be allowed entry to the entire premises at any time for inspections in the packinghouse and the fields. Additionally, all records of farm activities associated with the gladiolus fields must be made available upon request to APHIS PPQ or FDACS personnel.
- E. Compliance Agreements. The owner of the business of the designated quarantined area must enter into a compliance agreement with APHIS to facilitate the interstate movement of regulated articles in accordance with all of the requirements of this Federal Order and this specific subpart, subject to monitoring and audits by APHIS or FDACS official. Such persons must agree to handle, pack, process, treat, and move regulated articles in accordance with this Federal Order. Compliance agreements may be arranged by contacting a local office of Plant Protection and Quarantine, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (listed in local telephone directories), or by contacting the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Emergency and Domestic Programs, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, Maryland 20737-1236.

Cancellation. The compliance agreement described above may be cancelled orally or in writing by an APHIS PPQ personnel inspector if the inspector finds that the person who entered into the compliance agreement has failed to comply with all of the requirements of this Federal Order and this specific subpart. If the person is given notice of cancellation orally, written confirmation of the decision and the reasons for it must be provided as promptly as circumstances allow. If the compliance agreement is cancelled, the owner of the business designated as the quarantined area may appeal the decision in writing to the APHIS Administrator within 10 days after receiving the written notification. The appeal must state all of the facts and reasons upon which the person relies to show that the compliance agreement was wrongfully cancelled. The Administrator must grant or deny the appeal, in writing, stating the reasons for the decision, as promptly as circumstances allow. If there is a conflict as to any material fact, a hearing will be held to resolve the conflict. Rules of practice concerning the hearing will be adopted by the Administrator.

4. Definitions.

Block. A contiguous group of “lands” with clearly-definable borders that separate it from other like blocks or growing units.

Inspector. Any person authorized by the Administrator of APHIS to enforce the requirements of this Order.