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1. [Home](#)
2. Print
3. Pdf
4. Node
5. Entity Print

# Plant Protection and Quarantine

Last Modified:

Close-up of woman wearing blue protective gloves holding a slug.

APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) safeguards our Nation's crops and forests against the entry, establishment, and spread of economically and environmentally significant pests. In doing so, we help U.S. agriculture thrive—across the country and around the world.

Learn more about [our organization](#), [Plant Protection Today](#), and the [authorities](#) under which we work.

## Priorities

### [Facilitating Safe Trade](#)

We help U.S. agriculture thrive in the global marketplace and work with countries around the world to promote a safe, fair, and predictable trade system.

### [Learn About International Standards](#)



### [Imports: Establishing Effective Regulations and Policies](#)

We determine which plants and plant products can be imported and which pose a high risk and should be excluded. Our regulations and policies protect the





## [Exports: Assisting American Farmers and Exporters](#)

We provide plant health inspection and certification for plants and plant products being shipped to foreign countries. Required by importing countries, these health



## [Safeguarding U.S. Agriculture From Invasive Pests](#)

We protect agriculture and natural resources from the risks associated with the entry, establishment, and spread of plant pests and diseases.

[Learn About Plant Pests and Diseases](#)



## Trending Topics

### [Yellow-Legged Hornet](#)

[The yellow-legged hornet was recently detected in the United States for the first time. Find out more about this destructive pest and how you can help prevent its spread.](#)

### [National Clean Plant Network Funding](#)

[The National Clean Plant Network protects healthy U.S. agriculture by providing "clean" plant propagative material free of targeted pathogens and pests. Learn about the program and current funding opportunities.](#)

### [Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Funding](#)

[The Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program funds projects to strengthen, prevent, detect, and mitigate invasive plant pests and diseases.](#)

### [Import Permits](#)

[Want to bring plants or plant products into the United States? Learn about APHIS regulations so you can import your products safely and legally.](#)

## [Detector Dogs](#)

[The National Detector Dog Training Center trains specially selected dogs and their handlers to safeguard America's agricultural and natural resources from harmful pests. Learn more about detector dogs.](#)

## [Science and Technology](#)

[PPQ scientists monitor data from around the world and throughout the country to uncover pathways and develop strategies to both exclude pests before they arrive at our shores and to stop or limit their movement if they enter the country.](#)

## **Latest Updates**

4/07/25

[APHIS Updates Import Requirements for Fresh Avocado Fruit \(\*Persea americana\* var. Hass\) from Guatemala into the United States](#)

4/02/25

[APHIS Seeks Public Comment on the Draft Rangeland Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Suppression Program Environmental Assessments in Nevada](#)

4/02/25

[APHIS Adds La Crosse County, Wisconsin, to the Spongy Moth \(\*Lymantria dispar\*\) Quarantined Area](#)

4/01/25

[APHIS Expands Mexican Fruit Fly \(\*Anastrepha ludens\*\) Quarantine Areas in Texas](#)

4/01/25

[APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine Expands Risk-Based Sampling for Lettuce varieties at U.S. Ports of Entry](#)

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