

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2021-09
May 21, 2021

Subject: APHIS Adds Del Norte County in California to *Phytophthora ramorum*
Quarantine Area

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is expanding the *Phytophthora ramorum* (*P. ramorum*) quarantine area in Del Norte County, California. APHIS is taking this action in response to the confirmation of *P. ramorum* in the county on September 19, 2020. The California Department of Food and Agriculture has established an intrastate quarantine for the areas in Del Norte County that mirrors the federal regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.92.

P. ramorum is the pathogen that causes sudden oak death, ramorum leaf blight, or ramorum dieback. Sudden oak death was first reported in 1995 on tan oak in Mill Valley, Marin County, California.

Through ongoing surveys, APHIS continues to define the extent of the pathogen's distribution in the United States and uses quarantine areas and public outreach to limit its artificial spread beyond infected areas. Details on APHIS-designated *P. ramorum* quarantine and regulated areas and the conditions to move regulated articles are in 7 CFR 301.92 and at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health/sod>

For more information about the *P. ramorum* program and federal regulations, please contact National Policy Manager, William Wesela, 301-851-2229.



Dr. Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

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

Federal Order

Phytophthora ramorum

Expansion of Quarantine in Del Norte County, California

DA-2021-09

May 21, 2021

This Federal Order expands the list of quarantine areas for *Phytophthora ramorum* (*P. ramorum*) to include Del Norte County, California.

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, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States. This Federal Order is also issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.92 et seq.

Effective immediately, this Federal Order adds Del Norte County, California, as a quarantine county for *P. ramorum*. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is taking this action in response to the detection of *P. ramorum* in the natural environment in these areas. The APHIS Administrator finds it necessary to regulate Del Norte County to prevent the spread of *P. ramorum*. Effective immediately, all interstate movement of *P. ramorum* regulated articles from these areas must be done in accordance with any applicable provisions of this Federal Order and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found in 7 CFR 301.92 et seq.

Section 7 CFR 301.92-3(a)(1) allows the designation of less than an entire state as a *P. ramorum* quarantined area only when the APHIS Administrator has determined, as in this case, that the designation of less than an entire state as a *P. ramorum*-quarantine area is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of *P. ramorum* infestations. In addition, 7 CFR 301.92-3 (a) requires that the state enforces an intrastate *P. ramorum* quarantine that is equivalent to the federal *P. ramorum* regulations. The State Plant Regulatory Official for California has confirmed the establishment of an intrastate quarantine for Del Norte County that mirrors the federal regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.92.

For more information on the federal *P. ramorum* regulatory program, please contact the *P. ramorum* National Policy Manager, William Wesela, at 301-851-2229. APHIS continues to appreciate the cooperative relationship with California in our effort to prevent the spread of *P. ramorum*.