APHIS Deregulates Chrysanthemum White Rust; Updates Import Requirements for Chrysanthemum Plants for Planting and Fresh Cut Flowers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is deregulating chrysanthemum white rust (CWR), a fungal disease caused by *Puccinia horiana*, and removing its designation as a quarantine pest.

An APHIS economic evaluation concluded that the current eradication-based approach is no longer technically or economically justified. CWR is now considered established in the United States, and growers can manage it more effectively using commonly available fungicides and other industry practices.

After extensive analysis and research, APHIS has determined that *Chrysanthemum* spp., *Leucanthemella serotina*, and *Nipponanthemum nipponicum,* may be safely imported into the continental United States as cuttings and in vitro plantlets from 20 countries—including Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Germany, Guatemala, Kenya, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Spain, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam—under a systems approach. APHIS also authorizes the importation of *Chrysanthemum* spp., *Leucanthemella serotina*, and *Nipponanthemum nipponicum* cuttings, *in vitro*

plantlets, and plants with roots from Canada under a separate protocol.

APHIS is removing CWR-specific import restrictions on fresh cut flowers and consolidating all commodity-specific import requirements into the Agricultural Commodity Import Requirements (ACIR) database. In addition, APHIS is adding the notice-based process to 7 CFR 319 Subpart P-*Cut Flowers* to enable a more rapid response to changing pest situations on this commodity.

To view the details of this action, go to www.regulations.gov and enter APHIS-2021-0081 in the search field for the plants for planting regulation and APHIS-2019-0024 in the search field for the chrysanthemum fresh cut flowers rule in the Federal Register.

These changes are effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register on November 9, 2026.

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