Subject: APHIS Expands Box Tree Moth (Cydalima perspectalis) Quarantines in Michigan and Ohio

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), is adding Lapeer County, Michigan, and Miami County, Ohio, to the box tree moth (BTM; *Cydalima perspectalis*) quarantined areas. Additionally, APHIS and ODA are expanding the quarantine that partially covers Greene and Montgomery Counties, Ohio, to now encompass the entire Counties. These measures parallel the intrastate quarantines established by MDARD on January 8, 2025, and ODA on March 10, 2025. This Federal Order supersedes Federal Order DA-2024-47.

To prevent the spread of BTM, APHIS considers it necessary to regulate the interstate movement of regulated articles of boxwood from quarantined areas. Boxwood plants may only be moved interstate from a quarantined area from an establishment operating under a compliance agreement, and if accompanied by a certificate issued by a state agricultural authority certifying that the shipment meets the requirements of this Federal Order and the compliance agreement. These requirements facilitate the safe interstate movement of boxwood by producers and distributors. State agricultural authorities may prescribe additional safeguards and protocols.

APHIS prohibits movement of all other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

The APHIS BTM webpage has the attached Federal Order and additional information about this pest.

For additional information about the BTM program you may contact:

Devon Gaydos Assistant National Policy Manager 240-457-0297 devon.gaydos@usda.gov

Matthew A. Rhoads

Acting Deputy Administrator

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

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

#### Federal Order

APHIS Expands Box Tree Moth (Cydalima perspectalis) Quarantines in Michigan and Ohio

DA-2025-29 July 21, 2025

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), is adding Lapeer County, Michigan, and Miami County, Ohio, to the box tree moth (BTM; *Cydalima perspectalis*) quarantined area. Additionally, APHIS and ODA are expanding the quarantine that partially covers Greene and Montgomery Counties, Ohio, to now encompass the entire Counties. These measures parallel the intrastate quarantines established by MDARD on January 8, 2025, and ODA on March 10, 2025. This Federal Order supersedes Federal Order DA-2024-47.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, <u>7 U.S.C. § 7701</u> et seq. Section 412(a) of the Plant Protection Act (<u>7 U.S.C. § 7712(a)</u>) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of plant pests within the United States.

To prevent the spread of BTM, APHIS considers it necessary to regulate the interstate movement of regulated articles of boxwood from quarantined areas.

Boxwood plants may only be moved interstate from a quarantined area from an establishment operating under a compliance agreement, and if accompanied by a certificate issued by a state agricultural authority certifying that the shipment meets the requirements of this Federal Order and the compliance agreement. These requirements facilitate the safe interstate movement of boxwoods by producers and distributors. State agricultural authorities may prescribe additional safeguards and protocols.

APHIS prohibits the movement of all other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

The APHIS BTM webpage has the attached Federal Order and additional information about this pest.

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### A. Quarantined Areas

The Administrator may designate a whole state or an area less than an entire state if the Administrator determines, as in this case, that the designation of less than an entire state is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of BTM. In addition, the Administrator may quarantine less than an entire state if it is determined that the affected state enforces equivalent restrictions and regulations for intrastate movement that effectively mitigate the spread of the pest.

The following areas are designated as quarantined areas for BTM:

**Delaware:** The entire State.

Massachusetts: The entire State.

**Michigan:** All of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Jackson, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties.

**New York:** All of Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Clinton, Cortland, Erie, Franklin, Genesee, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston, Madison, Monroe, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins, Saint Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates Counties.

**Ohio:** All of Butler, Clermont, Greene, Hamilton, Miami, Montgomery, and Warren Counties.

Pennsylvania: All of Erie County.

#### **B.** Regulated Articles

Regulated articles include the whole plant, all plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

## C. Conditions for Movement of Regulated Articles

No person may move regulated articles interstate from any quarantined areas except in accordance with this Federal Order.

Boxwood plants may only be moved interstate from a quarantined area from an establishment operating under a compliance agreement, and only if accompanied by a certificate issued by a state agricultural authority certifying that the requirements of this Federal Order and the compliance agreement have been met.

APHIS prohibits the movement of all other regulated articles of boxwood, including plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

### D. Definitions

Administrator. The Administrator of APHIS, or any person authorized to act for the Administrator.

*Certificate*. A document, stamp, or other means of identification issued by an inspector or person operating under a compliance agreement when he or she finds that, because of certain conditions, a regulated article can be moved safely from an area quarantined for BTM, without spreading the pest.

Compliance Agreement. A written agreement between the state agriculture authority and a person engaged in the business of growing, maintaining, processing, handling, packing, or moving regulated articles for interstate movement, in which the person agrees to comply with specific requirements.

*Inspector*. An individual authorized to determine the eligibility of plants for interstate movement.

*Interstate*. From any state into or through any other state.

Quarantined Area. Any state, or any portion of a state, listed in this Federal Order.

Regulated Article. Buxus spp., commonly called boxwood. The whole plant, all plant parts, pieces, cuttings, clippings, debris, and any portion of the plant, alive or dead, except for decorative purposes.

State Agriculture Authority. A state agency that regulates agriculture, natural resources, and related issues.