



SHIPPING NURSERY STOCK TO MEET JAPANESE BEETLE PHYTOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS

Background

The **U.S. Domestic Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan (JBHP)** helps prevent the spread of *Popillia japonica* (Japanese beetle) through the movement of nursery stock and other regulated materials. It was developed by the [National Plant Board](#) (NPB) as a framework to protect uninfested states, while providing shippers with consistent certification requirements. The JBHP is not a federal quarantine and does not override individual state regulations.

The JBHP divides states into four categories, depending on their regulatory status for JB.

- Category 1 (Cat 1) – Uninfested and JB is regulated.
- Category 2 (Cat 2) – Uninfested or partially infested.
- Category 3 (Cat 3) – Partially or generally infested.
- Category 4 (Cat 4) – Pest is unlikely to establish/ not known to be infested.

This document is meant only to be a high-level summary of the requirements. For complete details, please refer to the [U.S. Domestic Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan](#).

What is Oregon's Current Status?

In the absence of a state Japanese beetle program, Oregon will be re-classified as Cat 2 or 3. This is pending final determination by the NPB, and the ODA is actively working with the NPB to expedite the evaluation process.

Oregon nurseries shipping plants with roots, soil, or growing media to Category 1 or 2 states/areas must follow strict production and certification standards to protect pest-free regions and to prevent the spread of JB to uninfested areas within Oregon. Regulated articles are subject to phytosanitary measures to meet import requirements of receiving states.

Whether a receiving state is Category 1 or 2, will dictate the exact requirements. **If a business meets the requirements to ship to Cat 1, they can freely ship to Cat 2 states. However, the reverse is not true.**

Where does this apply to?

JBHP Regulatory Status	Receiving Destinations
Category 1 (Uninfested)	AZ, CA, HI, ID, MT, NV, UT, WA and British Columbia, Canada
Category 2 (Uninfested or Partially Infested)	AK, AL, AR, CO, MS, ND, NM, OK, SD, TX and Newfoundland, Canada

The [JB regulatory status map](#) visualizes all 50 states and Canadian territories, coding them as Cat 1, 2, or 3. This map is updated annually. Regulatory status is determined by the National Plant Board. The [JB regulatory status map for Canada](#) is also available.

Regulated Articles

- Plants with roots and soil (including B&B and container stock)
- Bareroot plants shipped free of soil or growing media
- Scions or cuttings with leaves during the JB flight season
- Bulbs, corms, tubers, and rhizomes
- Grass sod
- Soil, compost, or growing media that is not commercially packaged
- Any article that could harbor beetle eggs, larvae, or adults. This can be determined by the receiving state, when the article is identified as posing risk of spreading JB

**** Plants with no roots and leaves, such as scions, are exempt ****

Shipment Options to Category 1 States

To qualify for shipment into a Category 1 state, nurseries must meet one of the approved pathways and enter into a compliance agreement with the ODA. **The adult flight season for JB is June 1 – September 30 and is non-negotiable.** Regulated articles must be safeguarded from JB during the flight season.

1. Production in a Protected Facility

Plants maintained in a state approved screened greenhouse or structure during the



flight season. Must be potted in sterilized soil or potting media. The facility must be inspected annually by the state.

2. Production During a Pest-Free Window

Rooted plants must be grown, finished, and shipped **outside the adult flight period:** October 1 – May 31.

3. Application of Approved Treatments

Treatment with an **ODA-approved insecticide** under supervision by a state official before shipment or conducted under a signed compliance agreement. Treatments may be applied by nursery staff or an approved pest control company.

4. Negative Trapping/Survey Verification

Nursery must demonstrate pest-free status through an approved trapping survey that is conducted on the nursery property during the entire adult flight season. In addition, 1-mile buffer area around the nursery must also be trapped. Traps must be regularly monitored by regulatory authorities throughout the entire season. If one or more beetle is caught or found on a plant via inspection, treatments will be required prior to shipment. Nurseries may contract with an approved pest control company.

5. Shipped Bare root

Plants are shipped bare root, free from soil or growing media. Free from soil means plants with less than the amount of soil or growing media that can harbor any life stage of Japanese beetle (egg, pupa, or larva). Some states define free from soil or growing media larger than ½ inch.

Shipment Options to Category 2 States

To qualify for shipment into a Category 2 state, nurseries must meet one of the approved pathways and enter into a compliance agreement with the ODA. **The adult flight season for JB is June 1 – September 30 and is non-negotiable.** Regulated articles must be safeguarded from JB during the flight season.

1. Application of Approved Treatments

Treatment with an **ODA-approved insecticide** under supervision by a state official before shipment or conducted under a signed compliance agreement. Treatments may be applied by nursery staff or an approved pest control company.



2. **Negative Trapping/Survey Verification**

Nursery must demonstrate pest-free status through an approved trapping survey that is conducted on the nursery property during the entire adult flight season. Traps must be placed and regularly monitored by regulatory authorities throughout the entire adult season. If one or two beetles are detected across all traps, the nursery *might* be able to keep its pest free status. This is at the discretion of the receiving state. Delimiting survey is required the following year (i.e. additional trapping around the positive trap location). If delimitation yields no JB finds, the nursery can be considered pest-free again. If more than two beetles are detected in either the initial or delimiting survey, the site is considered infested. Nurseries may contract out that work to an approved pest control company.

3. **Field Grown Nursery Stock Accreditation Program**

Applies to balled & burlapped, field-potted plants from nurseries within an infested area. Requires regular soil sampling (Sept – May) and mitigation if JB larvae are recovered. Certification not possible if more than one JB larvae is found. Other requirements include maintaining weed-free zones around plantings and treatments.

4. **Containerized Nursery Stock Accreditation Program**

All containers must: be potted in approved growing media or sterilized media; containers must be kept on barrier to prevent JB infestation; certified lots must be clearly marked and separated; and apparently free of weeds. Grasses and sedges are not eligible for this option.

5. **Sod Shipment Requirements**

Permissible if sod originates from site free of JB through trapping program. Alternatively, if sod originates from sites under a compliance agreement which requires: treatment for JB on peripheral of farm, removal of JB host plant species from the immediate growing areas and treatment of the sod, and visual inspection at time of harvest as well as time of shipment.

Documentation Required

- **Compliance Agreement** with ODA. All nurseries that are shipping regulated articles to a Cat 1 or 2 state are required to have a compliance agreement. This must be renewed on an annual basis prior March 1st. The agreement is not in effect until signed by both the nursery and the ODA.



- A direct compliance agreement with the state plant regulatory agency of the receiving state may also be required. ODA will negotiate to move this requirement to the Department level in these cases.
 - **Phytosanitary or Certificate of Quarantine Compliance** with an appropriate additional declaration (AD) indicating that the approved shipping requirement has been met.
-

Key Reminders

- Trapping must occur **during the entire adult flight season** to be valid.
 - Non-compliant shipments may be **refused entry, destroyed, or returned at shipper's expense.**
 - **Always check destination-state rules, as some states have stricter entry requirements.**
 - This document is meant only to be a high-level summary of the requirements. **For complete details, please refer to the [U.S. Domestic Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan](#).**
-

Contact:

Kevin Bailey,
Nursery & Christmas Tree Program Manager
Phone: 503-986-4644 | Email: Kevin.F.Bailey@oda.oregon.gov

Nursery & Christmas Tree Program
Phone: 503-986-4644 | Email: nursery@oda.oregon.gov

