

Arizona Shipping Requirements Update

NURSERY ADVISORY BOARD (NAB) MEETING

MAY 16, 2023

Arizona Shipping Requirements Update

- ▶ Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Section R3-4-203, established in 2019/20, replaced a number of previous state exterior quarantines, and restricts the movement of all host commodities for regulated pests from all states into Arizona.
- ▶ The rule provides for the Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) to enter into Origin Inspection Agreements with origin states to facilitate trade.
- ▶ AZDA has allowed California shippers to continue to ship regulated commodities into Arizona in accordance with the pre-2019 rules, as AZDA and CDFA have worked to develop updated agreements that comply with A.A.C. § R3-4-203.

Arizona Shipping Requirements Update

- ▶ CDFA and AZDA have worked to develop a new draft OIA to allow for the shipment of nursery stock under the terms of a compliance agreement, in lieu of an original phytosanitary certificate.
- ▶ The OIA will not apply to nursery stock regulated under A.A.C. § R3-4-220 (all species, varieties, or hybrids of the genera *Citrus*, *Eremocitrus*, *Fortunella*, *Poncirus*, and *Microcitrus*), which require an original phytosanitary certificate for shipment.
- ▶ Participation in the compliance agreement program is voluntary, and nurseries will continue to be able to ship all nursery stock with an original phytosanitary certificate.

Draft Compliance Agreement Components

- ▶ Sign a compliance agreement with the county agricultural commissioner (CAC)
- ▶ Records: Participants shall maintain records related to the program for at least one year, and provide such records to CDFA, CAC, or AZDA upon request
- ▶ Training: Participants shall provide training to appropriate personnel regarding the practices in the compliance agreement, as well as information on pests and diseases as provided by CDFA, CAC, and/or AZDA

Draft Compliance Agreement Components

- ▶ Pest Management Plan:
 - ▶ Maintain a holding area for inspection of incoming nursery stock
 - ▶ Maintain general pest management practices as needed
 - ▶ Facility staff visually inspect nursery stock within 5 days prior to shipment
 - ▶ Display or provide pictures of pests of high concern, as provided by CDFA, CAC, and/or AZDA
- ▶ Inspections: CAC will conduct inspections of the facility to confirm compliance, including records retention, use of certificates, and freedom from regulated pests.

Draft Compliance Agreement Components

- ▶ Enforcement:
 - ▶ AZDA may inspect any plants shipped to Arizona
 - ▶ Any live life stage of a regulated plant pest in a shipment will result in the rejection of that shipment
 - ▶ AZDA will notify CDFA of all finds of plant pests
 - ▶ CDFA and/or the CAC will investigate all violations of the terms of the compliance agreement and A.A.C. § R3-4-203, and will consult with AZDA to determine and implement any corrective action, up to and including suspension from shipping plants to Arizona

Next Steps...

- ▶ Based on feedback from the NAB, CDFA and AZDA will finalize the OIA and compliance agreement and begin implementation
- ▶ CDFA will conduct outreach to notify CAC's and industry about the new requirements and transition participants to the new compliance agreement
- ▶ CDFA, in coordination with AZDA, will provide training and outreach on pests of concern as needed
- ▶ CDFA and AZDA will annually evaluate the terms of the OIA and compliance agreement, and the pests found in shipments, to determine if changes are needed