

Importing Biologicals

Gerry Wheeler
USDA APHIS PPQ
Grand Rapids, MI

- ▶ USDA Regulates the movement of
 - ▶ Plant pests
 - ▶ Means of conveyance
 - ▶ Earth, stone, and quarry products
 - ▶ Garbage
 - ▶ Certain other products and articles

- ▶ USDA Regulates the movement of
 - ▶ Plant pests

- ▶ USDA Regulates movement
 - ▶ Into the US
 - ▶ From foreign countries
 - ▶ US territories
 - ▶ Through the US
 - ▶ Between states
 - ▶ Within states

Definition - Plant Pest

- ▶ Any living stage of the following that can directly or indirectly injure, cause disease or damage in any plants or parts thereof, or any processed, manufactured or other products of plants

Definition - Plant Pest

- ▶ Insects
- ▶ Nematodes
- ▶ Snails
- ▶ Invertebrate animals
- ▶ Fungi
- ▶ Mites
- ▶ Slugs
- ▶ Protozoans
- ▶ Bacteria
- ▶ Viruses
- ▶ Parasitic plants or reproductive parts thereof
- ▶ Any organisms similar to or allied with any of the foregoing
- ▶ Any infectious substance of the aforementioned

Purposes

- ▶ Biological Supply
- ▶ Commercial Resale
- ▶ Consumption (pet food, bait, etc.)
- ▶ Culture Collection/Curation
- ▶ Diagnostic Labs
- ▶ Display
- ▶ Educational
- ▶ Release
- ▶ Research

Other Agencies

- ▶ USDA Biotechnology and Regulatory Services
- ▶ USDA Veterinary Services
- ▶ US Fish and Wildlife Services
- ▶ State Depts. Of Agriculture
- ▶ Centers for Disease Control
- ▶ Environmental Protection Agency
- ▶ Others

Domestic Quarantines

- ▶ *Phytophthora ramorum*
- ▶ Golden and Pale Cyst Nematodes
- ▶ Imported Fire Ant
- ▶ Fruit Flies
- ▶ Giant African Snail
- ▶ Gypsy Moth
- ▶ Emerald Ash Borer



Purpose

This map is to assist laboratories receiving domestic origin soil samples for chemical/physical analysis from areas where soil is regulated by USDA. Contact [USDA.APHIS.PPQ](#) for all other movements or purposes.

Regulated Pests

Green, Yellow, and Orange areas of this map are regulated by USDA to prevent the spread of:

- various Fruit Flies
- Giant African Snail
- Golden Nematode
- Imported Fire Ant
- Pale Cyst Nematode
- *Phytophthora ramorum*
- Witchweed

(Click on the pest name to learn more about it and find detailed quarantine maps)

Authorized Movements

Soil samples from Green and Yellow areas may be moved into or through the White areas to a [USDA approved facility](#) under a USDA soil compliance agreement.

Movement of soil from locations within the Orange areas may require a Limited Permit (PPQ 530) or Certificate (PPQ 540). Contact [USDA.APHIS.PPQ](#) for further guidance.

Most of CA, FL, and the border region of TX is suitable habitat for exotic Fruit Flies. Counties crosshatched in red have experienced outbreaks in the past. In areas susceptible to Fruit Fly infestation, quarantines can arise quickly and change often.

Click [here](#) for the most up-to-date version of this map.

Additional Restrictions

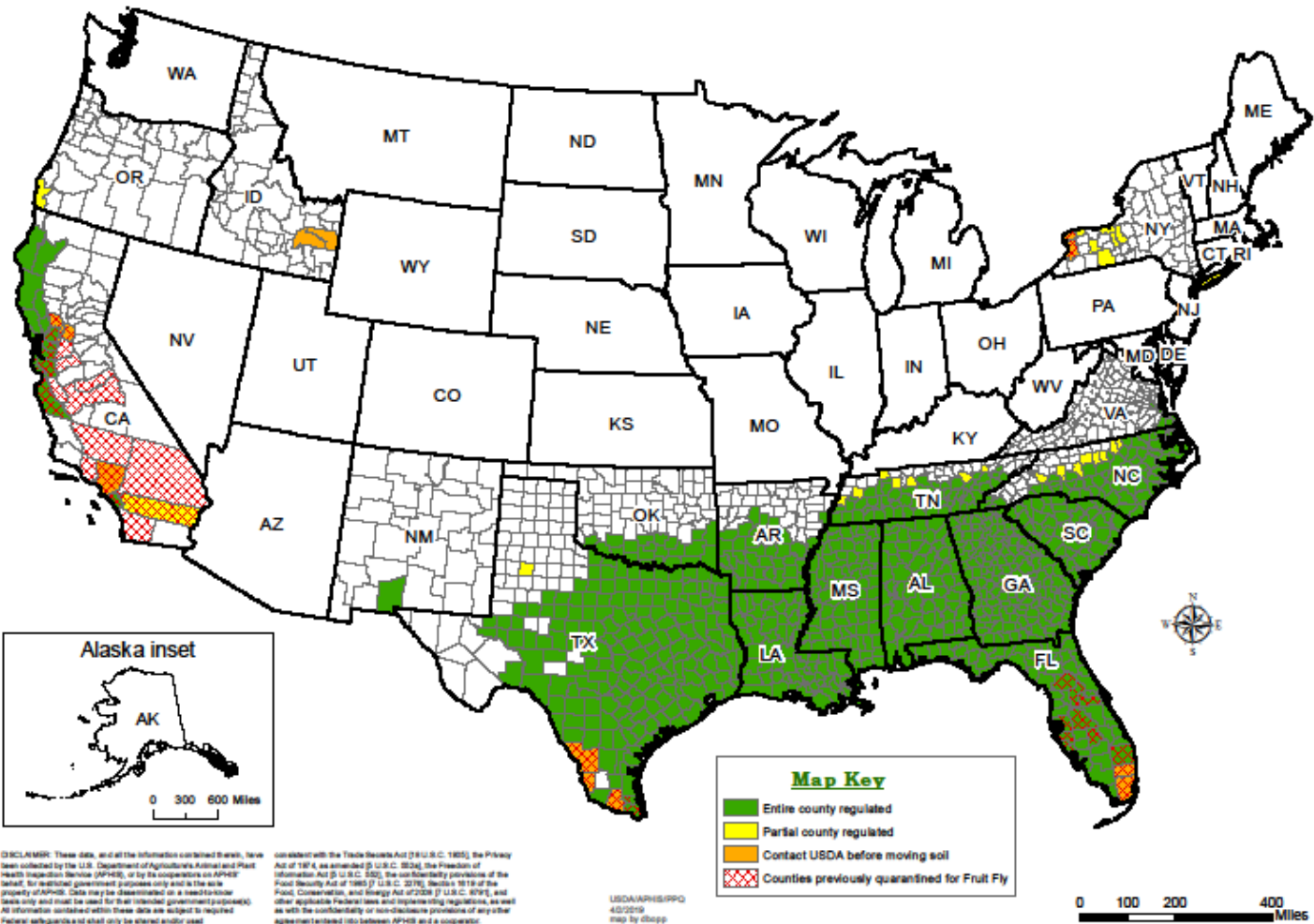
Movement of soil for isolation or culturing of organisms requires a Plant Pest Permit (PPQ 526).

Importation of soil from outside the continental U.S. requires a USDA import permit (PPQ 330).

Individual states may have additional restrictions on the movement of soil. Consult with destination states prior to movement.

Contact

Contact [USDA.APHIS.PPQ](#) for questions about quarantine status, soil regulations, or movement eligibility.



DISCLAIMER: These data, and all the information contained therein, have been collected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), or by its cooperators on APHIS behalf, for nonother government purposes only and in the sole property of APHIS. Data may be disseminated on a non-exclusive basis only and must be used for all intended government purposes. All information contained within these data are subject to required Federal safeguards and shall only be shared and/or used consistent with the Trade Secrets Act (18 U.S.C. 1835), the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), the solar liability provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 2176), Section 10119 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 879c), and other applicable Federal laws and implementing regulations, as well as with the confidentiality or non-disclosure provisions of any other agreement entered into between APHIS and a cooperator.

Types of Permits

- ▶ PPQ 525 - Soil (330)
- ▶ PPQ 526 - Plant Pests
- ▶ PPQ 546 - Postentry Quarantine
- ▶ PPQ 585 - Timber / Timber Products
- ▶ PPQ 586 - Transit through US
- ▶ PPQ 587 - Plants / Plant Products
- ▶ PPQ 588 - Controlled Import (NAPPRA)

Types of Permits

- ▶ **PPQ 525 - Soil (330)**
- ▶ **PPQ 526 - Plant Pests**

PPQ 526

- ▶ Permit to Move Live Plant Pests, Biological Control Agents, Bees, Parasitic Plants, Federal Noxious Weeds, or Soil

PPQ 526

- ▶ Importation
- ▶ Interstate Movement
- ▶ Intrastate Movement
 - ▶ Regulated pests only
- ▶ Possession
- ▶ Release
- ▶ Soil for the purpose of culturing/isolation
 - ▶ PPQ 525 does not authorize culture/isolation

PPQ 525

- ▶ Permit to Receive Soil

PPQ 525

- ▶ Purposes:
 - ▶ Chemical or Physical Analysis
 - ▶ Biodegradation Studies
 - ▶ DNA/RNA Isolation and/or Culture
- ▶ Does not authorize isolation/culture of live organisms

PPQ 525

- ▶ Importation
 - ▶ Includes Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and USVI
- ▶ Interstate movement of imported soil
- ▶ Possession of imported soil
- ▶ Not used for interstate movement



Purpose

This map is to assist laboratories receiving domestic origin soil samples for chemical/physical analysis from areas where soil is regulated by USDA. Contact [USDA.APHIS.PPQ](#) for all other movements or purposes.

Regulated Pests

Green, Yellow, and Orange areas of this map are regulated by USDA to prevent the spread of:

- various Fruit Flies
- Giant African Snail
- Golden Nematode
- Imported Fire Ant
- Pale Cyst Nematode
- *Phytophthora ramorum*
- Witchweed

(Click on the pest name to learn more about it and find detailed quarantine maps)

Authorized Movements

Soil samples from Green and Yellow areas may be moved into or through the White areas to a [USDA approved facility](#) under a USDA soil compliance agreement.

Movement of soil from locations within the Orange areas may require a Limited Permit (PPQ 530) or Certificate (PPQ 540). Contact [USDA.APHIS.PPQ](#) for further guidance.

Most of CA, FL, and the border region of TX is suitable habitat for exotic Fruit Flies. Counties crosshatched in red have experienced outbreaks in the past. In areas susceptible to Fruit Fly infestation, quarantines can arise quickly and change often.

Click [here](#) for the most up-to-date version of this map.

Additional Restrictions

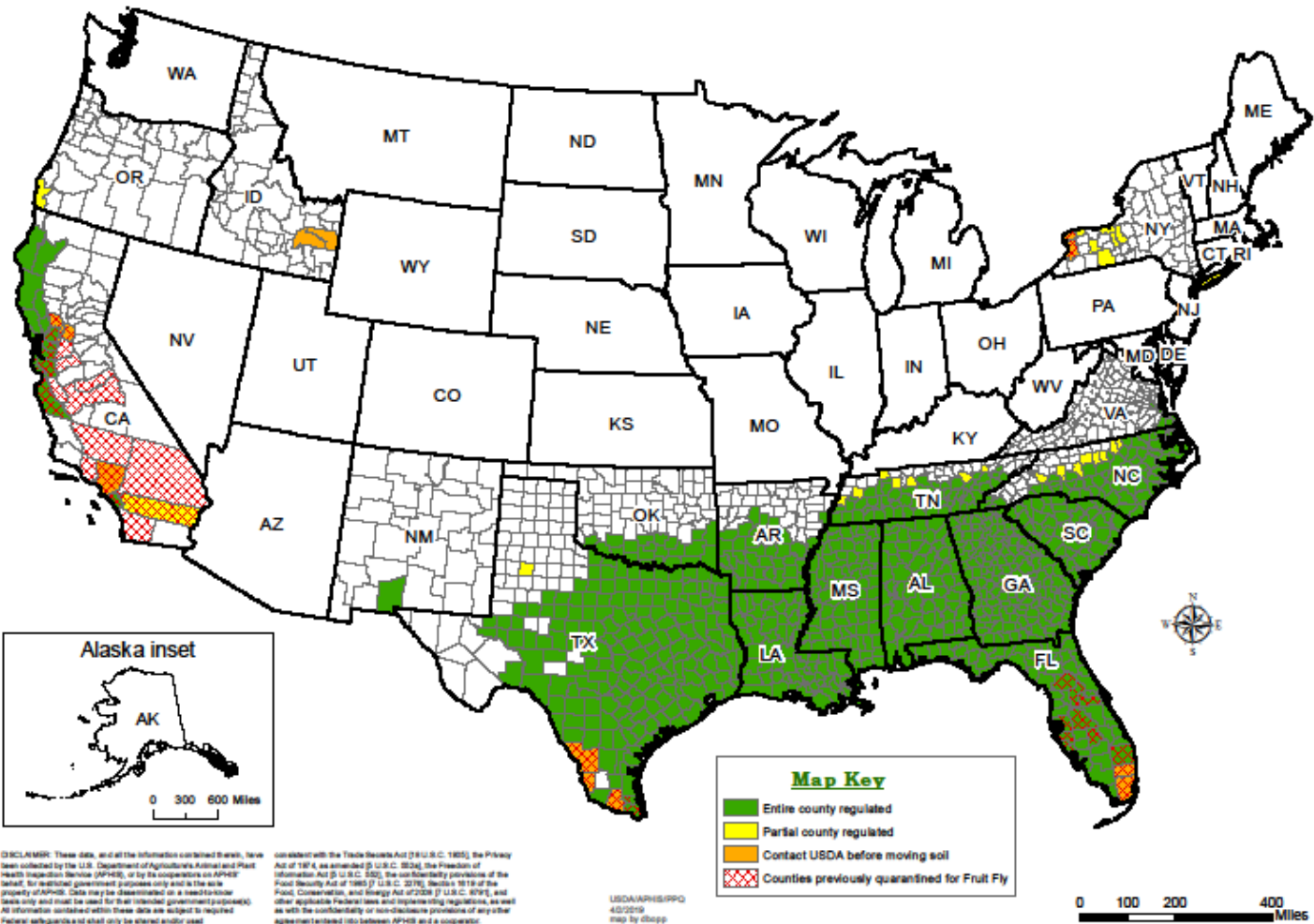
Movement of soil for isolation or culturing of organisms requires a Plant Pest Permit (PPQ 526).

Importation of soil from outside the continental U.S. requires a USDA import permit (PPQ 330).

Individual states may have additional restrictions on the movement of soil. Consult with destination states prior to movement.

Contact

Contact [USDA.APHIS.PPQ](#) for questions about quarantine status, soil regulations, or movement eligibility.



DISCLAIMER: These data, and all the information contained therein, have been collected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), or by its cooperators on APHIS behalf, for nonother government purposes only and in the sole property of APHIS. Data may be disseminated on a non-exclusive basis only and must be used for all intended government purposes. All information contained within these data are subject to required Federal safeguards and shall only be shared and/or used consistent with the Trade Secrets Act (18 U.S.C. 1835), the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), the non-liability provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 2276), Section 1819 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 879c), and other applicable Federal laws and implementing regulations, as well as with the confidentiality or non-disclosure provisions of any other agreement entered into between APHIS and a cooperator.

USDA/APHIS/PPQ 40/0219 map by dlopp

PPQ 525

- ▶ Heat Treatment Option
 - ▶ Soil can be heat treated at the Port of Entry
 - ▶ Must be 3# or less
 - ▶ Must be authorized by permit

PPQ 525

▶ Soil Definition

- ▶ The loose surface material of the earth in which plants grow, in most cases consisting of disintegrated rock with an admixture of organic material and soluble salts.

PPQ 525

- ▶ What items are exempt?
 - ▶ Sand
 - ▶ Clay (china clay, etc.)
 - ▶ Mining materials (drilling cores, etc.)
 - ▶ Ocean sediments
- ▶ Subject to Inspection
- ▶ Must be free of plant pests, plant parts, seeds, etc.

Import Shipping Requirements

- ▶ Sturdy, escape-proof packaging
- ▶ Must include copy of permit
 - ▶ or permit number on documents
- ▶ Must have appropriate shipping label

Import Shipping Requirements

- ▶ Packages must not contain any
 - ▶ Extraneous plant material
 - ▶ Extraneous soil
 - ▶ Other plant pests
 - ▶ Debris
- ▶ Except as authorized by the permit.

Inspections of Shipments

- ▶ All shipments are subject to inspection at first port of entry to verify compliance with permit conditions
- ▶ Shipments must be properly identified
- ▶ Hand carry shipments must be declared

Dead Insects and Mites

- ▶ No permit required by USDA
 - ▶ Except dead bees - Superfamily Apoidea
- ▶ Subject to inspection
- ▶ Must be declared on entry
- ▶ May require permits from other agencies (FWS)

Herbarium specimens

- ▶ Permit may be required
 - ▶ PPQ 588 - prohibited taxa
 - ▶ PPQ 526 - parasitic plants and FNW
 - ▶ PPQ 621 - protected species

Shipping Labels

- ▶ Red and White (PPQ Form 599)
 - ▶ Used for organisms
 - ▶ Directs shipment to POE
- ▶ Green and Yellow (PPQ Form 508)
 - ▶ Used for plants and some soil
 - ▶ Directs shipments to POE
- ▶ Black and White (PPQ Form 550)
 - ▶ Used for untreated soil
 - ▶ Directs shipment to soil lab or facility

Shipping Labels

- ▶ Used for imports only
- ▶ Numbered forms
- ▶ Identifies individual shipment
- ▶ Attach to exterior of package
- ▶ Directs the shipment to a designated destination
 - ▶ Port of Entry (Red and White label)
 - ▶ Lab or facility (Black and White Label)
- ▶ Shows the shipment is under permit

Shipping Labels

- ▶ Permit will:
 - ▶ state if a shipping label is required
 - ▶ provide instructions to order labels
- ▶ Labels sent via email (pdf)
- ▶ Print labels in color

Shipping Labels

- ▶ Packages without labels on the exterior of the package may be refused entry.

Hand Carry

- ▶ Must be requested on permit application
- ▶ Must be authorized by your permit
- ▶ Carrier must be identified on the permit
- ▶ CBP must be notified in advance
- ▶ Follow instructions on your permit

Containment Facility Inspections

- ▶ Access and security
- ▶ Required equipment
 - ▶ Biosafety Cabinet, Autoclave, Storage, etc.
- ▶ Handling
- ▶ Record keeping
 - ▶ Training
 - ▶ Inventories
- ▶ Destruction and Disposal
- ▶ Standard Operating Procedures

Standard Operating Procedures



ePermits

- ▶ A single place to view and manage all your permit applications, permits and other permit related correspondence.

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/permits>

ePermits

- ▶ Application is 2-step process
 - ▶ eAuthentication - Level 2 Access
 - ▶ Application

ePermits

- ▶ **Submit applications ASAP**
 - ▶ 4-6 months for new permits
 - ▶ 3 months for renewals
- ▶ **Most permits expire in 3 years**
- ▶ **Read your draft permit thoroughly before signing**
 - ▶ Renewed permits may not be the same

Violations

- ▶ May result in:
 - ▶ Time delays
 - ▶ Loss of shipment
 - ▶ Loss of permit
 - ▶ Civil and/or criminal penalties

When in Doubt:

- ▶ Read your Permit
- ▶ Ask