

MASSACHUSETTS

SUMMARY OF PLANT PROTECTION REGULATIONS

Updated August 2026

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
Division of Crop and Pest Services
225 Turnpike Road
Southborough, MA 01772

STAFF

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State Plant Regulatory Official: Taryn LaScola (taryn.lascola@mass.gov), 617-828-3793)

Nursery Certification: Kyle Kaseta (kyle.kaseta@mass.gov), 617-851-2443)

Apiary Inspection: Kim Skyrn (kim.skyrm@mass.gov), Amherst 413-548-1905

The information, as provided, is for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as complete, nor should it be considered legally binding. Coordination with both your state and the destination state plant regulatory agency listed above may be necessary to stay up-to-date on revised requirements.

NURSERY STOCK DEFINITION

Trees, shrubs, woody plants and strawberry plants, whether wild or cultivated and parts thereof for propagation.

GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

All nursery stock moving into Massachusetts must have attached a copy of a valid inspection certificate of the state of origin and is subject to inspection. Anyone receiving nursery stock must immediately notify the Department, giving name and address of the consignee and other information as required. Infested or infected nursery stock may be destroyed, treated or returned to the consignor at the consignor's expense.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Prohibited Plant List: Lists plants prohibited from sale, trade, purchase, distribution and related activities. <https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-prohibited-plant-list>

QUARANTINES OR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

White pine blister rust quarantine

The fungus *Cronartium ribicola* which causes white pine blister rust.

States Regulated: All

Materials Regulated: Plants of *Ribes spp.*

Restrictions: *Ribes nigrum* is prohibited from all parts of the state. Possession and planting of all other *Ribes spp.* is prohibited from many towns in MA; see <https://www.mass.gov/growing-red-currants-or-gooseberries-in-massachusetts> for a list of towns. Entry of *Ribes spp.* into unregulated areas (towns not on the list linked to above) must be accompanied by a control area permit issued by the Division of Crop & Pest Services, contact Kyle Kaseta at Kyle.Kaseta@mass.gov.