

Instructions for Completing PPQ Form 526  
Application for Permit to Move Live Plant Pests or Noxious Weeds

Complete this form to request a USDA-APHIS-PPQ permit for the following activities:

1. **IMPORT** – Plant pests, including but not limited to the following living organisms; insects, mites, nematodes, snails, slugs, earthworms, microbes pathogenic to plants or invertebrates, honey bees and other pollinating bees, biological control organisms, parasitic plants, or Federal noxious weeds into the United States.
2. **SHIP INTERSTATE** - any of the above, EXCEPT honey bees and entomophagous insects. (Interstate shipment of entomopathogens does not require a permit unless the organisms were originally imported under a permit requiring containment. APHIS does not regulate interstate movement of pollinating bees, including honey bees.)
3. **RELEASE** - an organism, including those for biological control purposes, from containment **into the environment** of the United States.

DO NOT SUBMIT ANY GENETICALLY ENGINEERED PLANTS OR PLANT PESTS ON THIS FORM – PLEASE USE APHIS FORM 2000.

For additional information, visit the web site at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/permits>

**TYPE or PRINT legibly. Do not leave any boxes unfilled. If a box does not apply, enter “Not Applicable” or “N/A.” If you need to provide additional information or require more space, enter “See Attachment” and continue on a separate page. Label each page with “PPQ Form 526,” block number, your last name, and your affiliation.**

**HOW TO COMPLETE EACH BLOCK:**

**Block 1:** Enter the complete name as shown on passports, legal documents, etc. Only one applicant is allowed per application and the applicant must be a U.S. resident. We strongly encourage academic advisors to apply for permits on behalf of their students as durations of permits issued to students will be restricted. The name of the applicant should be the person actually responsible for the requested organism(s) and permit conditions. Institutions and businesses should apply for permits under the name of the person using the organism(s) and not coordinators.

**Block 2:** Enter telephone number, including the Area Code and any extensions. Follow this with your facsimile number, including the Area Code. Please provide your e-mail address (optional).

**Block 3:** Indicate which type of pest is to be moved; Pathogens, Arthropods, Noxious weeds, or other. If you choose “other” enter the organism type on the provided line. Diagnostic laboratories would select “other” and enter “diagnostic” on the line and in blocks 4-6 list the type of organisms (e.g., phytopathogenic bacteria, plant viruses, or nematodes). Check “other” if pest status is unknown or not described in the categories provided (e.g., nematode-trapping fungi).

**Invertebrate animals** – e.g., insects, nematodes, snails, slugs, mites

**Parasitic plants** - plants that feed on other plants

**Plant pathogens** - e.g., fungi, viruses, bacteria, or related pests that infect plants

**Entomopathogens** - organisms that cause disease in insects

**Noxious weeds** - plants listed in CFR 360; visit the above website for this list

**Biological Control Organisms** - e.g., herbivores, parasites, parasitoids, predators and pathogens of invertebrate and microbial plant pests and of weeds.

**Bees** - USDA regulates only the importation of pollinating bees (honey bees, bumble bees, etc.) and not their interstate movement.

**Blocks 4, 5, and 6:** If not enough space is provided to list organisms, continue on a separate sheet and attach. Submittal of separate applications for arthropods and pathogens is encouraged. For large numbers of organisms, separate them into ‘related’ groups. Permit conditions for plant viruses, phytopathogenic bacteria, and arthropods differ and may require separate permits for scientific review if you request to inoculate plants.

**Columns A and B; Scientific Name and Classification:** Enter the scientific name (genus and species) and the author, if known (e.g., *Cinara strobilifera* (Fitch) or *Baris lepidii* Germar). If sub-designations exist, list them, e.g. races, pathovars, subspecies, strains, or geographic isolates. If unknown enter as “unknown.” If the species is unknown, list the genus and, if possible, other identification such as a specimen or culture number. If sub-designations such as races, pathovars, subspecies or strains are desired, list the appropriate sub-designation. If these are not known or are undetermined, then enter “unknown.” Use correct spelling. Viruses should be identified using approved descriptive names.

**Column C; Life Stages:** For invertebrate animals use eggs, juveniles, larvae, nymphs, pupae, or adults. For fungi use spores, mycelia, fruiting bodies. For bacteria and viruses enter “N/A.” For plants use seeds, whole plants, or plant parts (such as leaves, stems, fruits, etc.)

**Column D:** Enter the number of specimens or units.

**Column E:** Enter the Country or State from which the organism(s) are originally being shipped.

**Column F; Organism Establishment:** If the requested organism/biotype/pathovar/isolate/etc. is of limited distribution in the United States, describe its distribution on an attached sheet.

**Column G; Major Hosts:** List the scientific name of the major hosts (or prey) of the organisms applied for, even when you do not intend to include them in shipments of the organisms for which you are applying. Enter “N/A” for non-parasitic noxious weeds.

**Block 7; Media or host material accompanying the organism:** List scientific name of host organisms or host plants that will accompany material in shipments. Be specific and accurate e.g. seeds, dried leaves, tissue cultures, fruits, stems, or soil. For nonparasitic weeds, enter “N/A.” For pathogens, list all components of the media. Describe the culture as pure or mixed with contaminants and identify known contaminants. If an application is only for ‘pure culture’ to be moved, the permit conditions will state that only ‘pure cultures’ are allowed, and if seeds, leaves and/or other materials are present in a shipment, then the entire shipment may be rejected at the PPQ Inspection Station.

**Block 8; Destination:** List the city and State where shipments will be received, housed, reared, or released. If the destination is the applicant’s address, list “Same as item #1.” If you intend to release the organism into the environment, list the exact location of the field tests including the county.

**Block 9; Port of Arrival:** List the desired port(s), otherwise enter as “unknown.” USDA will assign the port of entry. For interstate movement, enter “N/A”.

**Block 10:** Enter the estimated dates of shipments and/or releases, if known.

**Block 11:** Enter the approximate number of shipments. For multiple shipments, indicate the number per a given time period, e.g. 2 per year.

**Block 12:** Enter the supplier’s name and address.

**Block 13; Method of Shipment:** Check the appropriate box. For express deliveries, enter the company.

**Block 14; Intended use:** Be specific. Use a separate sheet to describe complex activities.

Describe the specifics such as handling, containment, disposal, use and purpose.

For microbes, do you plan to inoculate plants? Will the infected plants be housed in the laboratory (e.g. as tissue cultures or plantlets in sealed containers), in growth chambers, in greenhouses, or field tests? For field tests: Is the microbe you intend to release into the environment the same as those that occur naturally in the release area? What is the size (acreage or number of plants) of the proposed field test? How do you intend to reduce any inoculum in the local area following termination of the research?

**Block 15:** State the methods that will be used to prevent plant pest escape. If you stated that an organism is NOT established in the United States (see Box F), provide a detailed explanation on how this organism will be contained.

**Block 16; Method of Final Disposal:** List the proposed method(s) and date of final disposal of organisms, such as; autoclaving, freezing, double-bagging, and disposal in a land fill. Describe treatments in detail, e.g. temperature, pressure, or duration. For environmental release, enter “N/A.”

**Block 17:** The person named in Block 1 must sign the application.

**Block 18:** Enter the date the application was completed and signed.

**Do not fill in or place other markings in boxes below Block 18.**

***SUBMIT this form with any attachments by mail to:***

USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Permits, Registrations and Imports (PRI), Pest Permit Evaluations, 4700 River Road, Unit 133, Riverdale MD 20737

***OR FAX TO 301-734-8700 or 301-734-4300.***

**Do not mail and fax the same application. Do not mail or fax the application to the State. APHIS-PPQ will notify the State during the review process.**

Please call for help or information: 301-734-4393 or 301-734-8896.