

Safety Note #146

QUARANTINED AND REGULATED PEST PERMIT REQUIREMENTS



Research and extension activities associated with exotic pests (including insects, diseases, plants, etc.) often require a permit from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and/or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In addition, import (from out-of-state or out-of-country) of pests, soil, or certain plant materials also requires a permit from CDFA and/or USDA. Permits may be required even if you are working with staff from the CDFA, USDA, or the local Agriculture Commissioner on a project. Failure to obtain a permit may result in regulatory action, including fines or loss of research funding.

When Do I Need a Permit?

- When propagating, raising, or transporting plant pests which are subject to quarantine.
Pest Exclusion Form 66-045 - Application and Permit to Move and Use Plant Quarantine Commodities: This application is used for the importation and movement of plant material which normally would not be allowed entry into California from areas within the U.S. or allowed movement within California due to plant pest quarantines.
- When moving or using plant pests across counties within the state.
Pest Exclusion Form 66-026 - Application and Permit to Move and Use Live Plant Pests or Insects or Noxious Weeds: This application is for the movement of live plant pests within California. For example, an individual who wishes to move a bacteria from Riverside to Fresno, would need to obtain a permit. This form should be submitted directly to CDFA's Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services office for review and issuance of a permit.
- When importing plant pests, soil, or plant materials from outside the state.
There are various USDA forms depending on type of pest or quarantine status. See USDA website: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/permits/index.shtml

For more information, see the following websites from the CDFA Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services:

- Permits and Regulations: <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/permitsandregs.html>
- California State List of Noxious Weeds: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious?rptType=State&statefips=06>

It is recommended that you contact the CDFA Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services, Permits and Regulations Program to verify whether a permit is required. Telephone and e-mail addresses are available at the CDFA website listed above.

Once you obtain a permit from CDFA, be sure you read all the conditions and procedures carefully and then follow the permit requirements. Distribute copies of the permit among all collaborators or staff who may work on the project and provide them training to ensure they are aware of and follow permit requirements. If the permit requirements do not match your experimental protocols or if your experiment changes, then you will need to work with CDFA to revise the permit.

Detailed training on identifying activities that require a permit, best practices for work with regulated or potentially regulated pests, and related issues is currently being developed and will be made available on the UC ANR EH&S website.

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Oatman at baoatman@ucanr.edu or (530) 752-6024.