

301.81 IMPORTED FIRE ANT

Federal Domestic Quarantine

A. Pest. Imported fire ant (*Solenopsis* spp.). This insect interferes with farming operations, causes damage to certain crops, and is a pest of livestock and pets as well as of people in rural and urban areas.

B. Quarantined Areas. See 301.81-3.

C. Regulated Articles.

(1) **Imported fire ant queens and reproducing colonies of imported fire ants.**

(2) **Soil**, separately or with other articles, except potting soil that is shipped in original containers in which the soil was placed after commercial preparation.

(3) **Baled hay and baled straw** stored in direct contact with the ground.

(4) **Plants and sod with roots and soil attached**, except plants maintained indoors in a home or office environment and not for sale.

(5) **Used soil-moving equipment**, unless removed of all non-compacted soil; and

(6) **Any other article or means of conveyance** when an inspector determines that it presents a risk of spread of the imported fire ant due to its proximity to an infestation of the imported fire ant; and the person in possession of the product, article, or means of conveyance has been notified that it is regulated.

D. Restrictions.

1. Certificate or Permit Required. Unless exempted in 301.81-2, any regulated article in subsection (C) above which is moved interstate from any quarantined area described in 301.81-3 must be accompanied by a Federal certificate, limited permit, or restricted destination permit.

2. Attachment and Disposition of Certificates or Permits. Every container or, if there is none, the regulated article itself, shall have a certificate, limited permit, or restricted destination permit securely attached to the outside thereof when offered for movement from a quarantined area, except that when the regulated article is adequately described on a certificate or permit attached to the waybill or other shipping document, the attachment of a certificate or permit to each container or the article itself is not required.

In all cases, the carrier must furnish certificates or permits to the consignee at destination of the shipment.

3. Issuance of Certificates. Certificates may be issued for movement of restricted articles that are eligible for certification to any destination under all Federal domestic plant quarantines applicable to such articles.

4. Issuance of Limited Permits. Limited permits may be issued for movement of restricted articles, not eligible for certification for imported fire ant, to specified destinations for limited handling, utilization, or processing, or for treatment in accordance with the Federal treatment manual, when the requirements of other applicable Federal domestic quarantines have been met.

5. Issuance of Restricted Destination Permits. Restricted destination permits may be issued for movement of restricted articles to any destination permitted under all applicable Federal domestic plant quarantines (for other than scientific purposes) if such articles are not eligible for certification under all such quarantines, but would otherwise qualify for certification for imported fire ant.

6. Issuance of Scientific Permits. Scientific permits may be issued by the Director, Plant Pest Control Division, for interstate movement of regulated articles for scientific purposes under conditions prescribed in each specific case by the Director.

7. Articles Originating Outside of Quarantined Areas. No certificate or permit is required for movement of regulated articles originating outside of the quarantined areas and moving through or reshipped from a quarantined area when the point of origin is clearly indicated, their identity has been maintained, and they have been safeguarded against infestation while in the quarantined area.

8. Movement of Live Imported Fire Ants. Live imported fire ants are prohibited movement interstate except under permit from the Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs, and the permit must be attached to the outside of the container. The arrival of any such shipment should be immediately reported to the Pest Exclusion Area Office.

E. Disposition. Restricted articles arriving in violation of this quarantine should be refused admittance into California under authority of and in accordance with Sections 6301 and 6521 to 6524, inclusive, California Food and Agricultural Code, at the option and expense of the owner.

QUARANTINED AREAS

301.81-3

09-22-23

The following States or portions of States are designated by the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service as quarantine areas:

[Imported Fire Ant Quarantined Areas \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov)

ALABAMA. The entire State.

ARKANSAS. Counties of Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Conway, Crittenden, Cross, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Faulkner, Franklin, Garland, Grant, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Lafayette, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Logan, Lonoke, Miller, Monroe, Montgomery, Nevada, Ouachita, Perry, Phillips, Pike,

* Portion of County.

** The articles hereby exempted remain subject to applicable restrictions under other quarantines.

*** Compacted soil is defined as soil attached to equipment which cannot be removed by brisk brushing and/or washing with water under normal city water pressure.

Polk, Pope, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline, Scott, Sebastian, Sevier, St. Francis, Union, White, Woodruff, and Yell.

CALIFORNIA. Los Angeles County*. That portion of Los Angeles County in the Azusa area bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Irwindale Avenue and Foothill Boulevard; then east along Foothill Boulevard to Azusa Avenue; then south along Azusa Avenue to East Fifth Street; then east along East Fifth Street to North Cerritos Avenue; then south along North Cerritos Avenue to Arrow Highway; then west along Arrow Highway to Azusa Avenue, then south along Azusa Avenue to Covina Boulevard; then west along an imaginary line to the intersection of Martinez Street and Irwindale Avenue; then north along Irwindale Avenue to the point of beginning.

That portion of Los Angeles County in the Cerritos area bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Artesia Boulevard and Marquardt Avenue; then south along Marquardt Avenue to the Los Angeles/Orange County Line; then south and west along the Los Angeles/Orange County Line to Carson Street; then west along Carson Street to Norwalk Boulevard; then north along Norwalk Boulevard to Centralia Street; then west along Centralia Street to Pioneer Boulevard; then north along Pioneer Boulevard to South Street; then east along South Street to Norwalk Boulevard; then north along Norwalk Boulevard to 183rd Street; then east along 183rd Street to Bloomfield Avenue; then north along Bloomfield Avenue to Artesia Boulevard; then east along Artesia Boulevard to the point of beginning.

Orange County. The entire county.

Riverside County*. That portion of Riverside County in the Indio area bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Avenue 50 and Jackson Street; then south along Jackson Street to 54th Avenue; then west along 54th Avenue to Madison Street; then north along Madison Street to Avenue 50; then east along Avenue 50 to the point of beginning.

That portion of Riverside County in the Moreno Valley area bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Reche Vista Drive and Canyon Ranch Road; then southeast along Canyon Ranch Road to Valley Ranch Road; then east along Valley Ranch Road to Michael Way; then south along Michael Way to Casey Court; then east along Casey Court to the Moreno Valley City Limits; then south and east along the Moreno Valley City Limits to Pico Vista Way; then southwest along Pico Vista Way to Los Olivos Drive; then south along Los Olivos Drive to Jaclyn Avenue; then west along Jaclyn Avenue to Perris Boulevard; then south along Perris Boulevard to Kalmia Avenue; then west along Kalmia Avenue to Hubbard Street; then north along Hubbard Street to Nightfall Way; then west and south along Nightfall Way to Sundial Way; then west along Sundial Way to Indian Avenue; then south along Indian Avenue to Ebbtide Lane; then west along Ebbtide Lane to Ridgecrest Lane; then

south along Ridgecrest Lane to Moonraker Lane; then west along Moonraker Lane to Davis Street; then south along Davis Street to Gregory Lane; then west along Gregory Lane to Heacock Street; then northwest along an imaginary line to the intersection of Lake Valley Drive and Breezy Meadow Drive; then north along Breezy Meadow Drive to its intersection with Stony Creek; then north along an imaginary line to the intersection of Old Lake Drive and Sunnymead Ranch Parkway; then northwest along Sunnymead Ranch Parkway to El Granito Street; then east along El Granito Street to Lawless Road; then east along an imaginary line to the intersection of Heacock Street and Reche Vista Drive; then north along Reche Vista Drive to the point of beginning.

That portion of Riverside County in the Bermuda Dunes, Palm Desert, and Rancho Mirage areas bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Ramon Road and Bob Hope Drive; then south along Bob Hope Drive to Dinah Shore Drive; then east along Dinah Shore Drive to Key Largo Avenue; then south along Key Largo Avenue to Gerald Ford Drive; then west along Gerald Ford Drive to Bob Hope Drive; then south along Bob Hope Drive to Frank Sinatra Drive; then east along Frank Sinatra Drive to Vista Del Sol; then south along Vista Del Sol to Country Club Drive; then east along Country Club Drive to Adams Street; then south along Adams Street to 42nd Avenue; then east along 42nd Avenue to Tranquillo Place; then south along Tranquillo Place to its intersection with Harbour Court; then southwest along an imaginary line to the intersection of Granada Drive and Caballeros Drive; then southeast along Caballeros Drive to Kingston Drive; then west along Kingston Drive to Mandeville Road; then east along Mandeville Road to Port Maria Road; then south along Port Maria Road to Fred Waring Drive; then west along Fred Waring Drive to its intersection with Dune Palms Road; then southwest along an imaginary line to the intersection of Adams Street and Miles Avenue; then west along Miles Avenue to Washington Street; then northwest along Washington Street to Fred Waring Drive; then west along Fred Waring Drive to Joshua Road; then north along Joshua Road to Park View Drive; then west along Park View Drive to State Highway 111; then northwest along State Highway 111 to Magnesia Fall Drive; then west along Magnesia Fall Drive to Gardess Road; then northwest along Gardess Road to Dunes View Road; then northeast along Dunes View Road to Halgar Road; then northwest along Halgar Road to Indian Trail Road; then northeast along Indian Trail Road to Mirage Road; then north along Mirage Road to State Highway 111; then northwest along State Highway 111 to Frank Sinatra Drive; then west along Frank Sinatra Drive to Da Vall Drive; then north along Da Vall Drive to Ramon Road; then east along Ramon Road to the point of beginning.

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That portion of Riverside County in the Palm Springs area bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Tramway Road, State Highway 111, and San Rafael Drive; then east along San Rafael Drive to Indian Canyon Drive; then south along Indian Canyon Drive to Francis Drive; then east along Francis Drive to North Farrell Drive; then south along North Farrell Drive to Verona Road; then east along Verona Road to Whitewater Club Drive; then east along an imaginary line to the intersection of Verona Road and Ventura Drive; then east along Verona Road to Avenida Maravilla; then east and south along Avenida Maravilla to 30th Avenue; then west along 30th Avenue to its end; then due west along an imaginary line to the Whitewater River; then southeast along the Whitewater River to Dinah Shore Drive; then west along an imaginary line to the east end of 34th Avenue; then west along 34th Avenue to Golf Club Drive; then south along Golf Club Drive to East Palm Canyon Drive; then south along an imaginary line to the intersection of Desterto Vista and Palm Hills Drive; then south along Palm Hills Drive to its end; then southwest along an imaginary line to the intersection of Murray Canyon and Palm Canyon Drive; then northwest along Palm Canyon Drive to the Palm Springs city limits; then west and north along Palm Springs city limits to Tahquitz Creek; then due north along an imaginary line to Tramway Road; then northeast along Tramway Road to the point of beginning.

FLORIDA. The entire state.

GEORGIA. The entire state.

LOUISIANA. The entire state.

MISSISSIPPI. The entire state.

NEW MEXICO. County of Doña Ana.

NORTH CAROLINA. Counties of Alamance, Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Burke, Cabarrus, Camden, Carteret, Catawba, Chatham, Cherokee, Chowan, Clay, Cleveland, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Dare, Davidson, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gaston, Gates, Graham, Granville*, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Iredell*, Jackson, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Lincoln, Macon, Martin, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Polk, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rowan, Rutherford, Sampson, Scotland, Stanly, Tyrrell, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson.

Granville County. That portion of Granville County lying south of U.S. Highway 158 from the Person County line to the Vance County line.

Iredell County. That portion of Iredell County lying south of Interstate 40 from the Davie County line to the Catawba County line.

OKLAHOMA. Counties of Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Choctaw, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Garvin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnston, Latimer, Leflore, Love, Marshall, McCurtain, Murray, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pushmataha, Stephens, and Tillman.

PUERTO RICO. The entire territory.

SOUTH CAROLINA. The entire state.

TENNESSEE. Counties of Anderson, Bedford, Benton, Bledsoe, Blount, Bradley, Cannon, Carroll, Cheatham, Chester, Cocke, Coffee, Crockett, Cumberland, Davidson, Decatur, DeKalb, Dickson, Fayette, Franklin, Fentress, Gibson, Giles, Grainger, Grundy, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Jefferson, Knox, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Loudon, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Maury, McMinn, McNairy, Meigs, Monroe, Montgomery, Moore, Morgan, Perry, Polk, Putnam, Rhea, Roane, Rutherford, Sequatchie, Sevier, Shelby, Smith, Stewart, Sumner, Tipton, Trousdale, Union, Van Buren, Warren, Wayne, Weakly, White, Williamson, and Wilson.

TEXAS. Counties of Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Archer, Atascosa, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Baylor, Bee, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Bosque, Bowie, Brazoria, Brazos, Brooks, Brown, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Calhoun, Callahan, Cameron, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Clay, Collin, Coke, Coleman, Colorado, Comal, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Crane, Crockett, Dallas, Delta, Denton, De Witt, Dimmit, Duval, Eastland, Ector, Edwards, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Fayette, Fisher, Fort Bend, Franklin, Freestone, Frio, Galveston, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzalez, Grayson, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Haskell, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hill, Hood, Hopkins, Houston, Howard, Hunt, Irion, Jack, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Johnson, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kendall, Kenedy, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Lamar, Lampasas, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Live Oak, Llano, Lubbock*, Madison, Marion, Martin, Mason, Matagorda, Maverick, McCulloch, McLennan, McMullen, Medina, Midland, Milam, Mills, Mitchell, Montague, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Nolan, Nueces, Orange, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Polk, Rains, Reagan, Real, Red River, Refugio, Robertson, Rockwall, Runnels, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, San Saba, Schleicher, Scurry, Shackelford, Shelby, Smith, Starr, Somervell, Stephens, Tarrant, Taylor, Terrell, Throckmorton, Titus, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Van Zandt, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Ward, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Winkler, Wise, Wood, Young, and Zavala.

Lubbock County. That portion of the City of Lubbock located within Highway 27 to the East, Ursuline Street to the North, Milwaukee Street to the West, and 98 Street to the South.

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VIRGINIA. Counties of Brunswick, Charlotte, Dinwiddie, Greensville, Halifax, Isle of Wight, James City, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Southampton, Sussex, and York.

Cities of Chesapeake City, Emporia, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg.

EXEMPTED ARTICLES

301.81-2b 11-19-95

A. The following articles are exempt** from the certification and permit requirements of the Imported Fire Ant Quarantine if they meet the applicable conditions set forth below and have not been exposed to infestation after cleaning or other handling as prescribed.

1. **Potting soil**, if commercially prepared, packaged, and shipped in original containers.
2. **Hay and straw**, if used for packing or bedding.
3. **Used mechanized soil-moving equipment**, if it has only compacted soil*** or is cleaned of all noncompacted soil.
4. **Transplants**, if substantially free of soil.

B. Soil samples for processing, testing, or analysis may be moved interstate from the quarantined area (without a certificate or permit) only to approved laboratories or only in emergencies under authorization from the Plant Protection Division, USDA.

shipping, in the state of origin, for imported fire ant contamination or infestations.

In addition, drivers should be prepared to provide:

- the exact, physical locations where the colonies will be placed in the destination counties (a post office box will not be accepted),
- a contact phone number at destination,
- total number of colonies in the shipment, and
- state of most recent origin (e.g., where they over-wintered).

A bee health certificate will not be necessary to clear a shipment at the border stations; however, any live life stage of suspected imported fire ants shall result in rejection of the entire load/shipment.

All honeybee colonies entering the state will be placed under a quarantine hold notice. The driver will be instructed to contact, at destination, the local office of the county agricultural commissioner, and await further instructions. The colonies will be carefully inspected for the presence of imported fire ants (IFA); if any live ants are found and identified as IFA, appropriate actions will be taken, which could include either treatment or destruction of the infested colonies. When the colonies are determined to be free of IFA and any other serious, quarantine pest, they will be released from the quarantine hold.

SYNTHETIC POTTING MIX

APPENDIX A 06-02-89

Plants potted in a soil free mix (perlite, sponge rock, sawdust, steam sterilized sand, vermiculite, etc.) may create a risk of introducing the imported fire ant and should be inspected but do not require certification as far as this quarantine is concerned (soil free mix not covered in the quarantine). Rejections of IFA infested plant material potted in a soil free mix should be made under the authority of Section 6461.5. All notices of rejection should indicate the type of potting media involved.

**WREATHS
APPENDIX B**

11-18-82

Hay and straw made into wreaths would be considered a processed product and would be exempt from requirements of this quarantine.

BEE COLONIES/HIVES

APPENDIX C 02-13-01

To assure that honeybee hive shipments are not delayed at the California border stations, all honeybee colonies should be free of dirt and debris, and checked prior to

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