



Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development  
Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division

**BALSAM WOOLLY ADELGID EXTERIOR QUARANTINE**

**Revised May 7, 2025**

**I. JUSTIFICATION**

The Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development has found that a dangerous pest, commonly known as balsam woolly adelgid, *Adelges piceae* (Ratzeburg), is injurious to balsam and other true fir trees. Balsam woolly adelgid is established in parts of the eastern and western United States but is only known to exist in a limited area in Michigan. Many species of wildlife benefit from the excellent habitat that a stand of native firs provide and native firs are considered a critical component to wildlife habitat. Native and commercially planted fir trees are a valuable resource for the timber, landscaping, Christmas tree and tourism industries in Michigan. Once native fir stands are infested, it is difficult to detect and eradicate balsam woolly adelgid. The Secretary of Agriculture of the United States has not determined that a federal quarantine is necessary. **THEREFORE**, the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, by authority of Section 23 of Act No. 189, P.A. of 1931, as amended, (Section 286.223, Compiled Laws of 1948) and Section 20 (2) and (3) of Act No. 189, (Section 286.220(2)(3), Compiled Laws of 1948, and Regulation No. 620, does establish a quarantine to prevent the introduction into Michigan of the insect pest, balsam woolly adelgid, and sets forth regulated areas, regulated articles, shipping restrictions and violations.

**II. DEFINITIONS.**

The following terms shall be construed to mean:

- (A) **BARK** means the natural bark of a tree, including residual bark at branch unions
- (B) **CERTIFICATE** means a State Phytosanitary Certificate or Certificate of Quarantine Compliance or equivalent certification document issued by an authorized state agricultural official.
- (C) **COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT** means a written agreement between the Director and a person moving or receiving regulated articles.
- (D) **CONSIGNOR/SHIPPER** means a person who causes a consignment of regulated articles to be shipped for delivery to a consignee (recipient).

- (E) **DEPARTMENT** means the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- (F) **DIELECTRIC HEAT (DH)** means lumber has been heat treated using dielectric heating.
- (G) **DIRECTOR** means the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development or her/his authorized representative.
- (H) **FIREWOOD** means tree parts cut in lengths shorter than 1.22 meters (4 feet) long.
- (I) **HEAT TREATMENT (HT)** means lumber which has been placed in a closed chamber and artificial heat added until the lumber or packing achieves a minimum core temperature of 56 degrees C. (132.8 degrees F.) for a minimum of 30 minutes.
- (J) **INFESTATION** means the presence of the balsam woolly adelgid or the existence of the circumstances that make it reasonable to believe that the balsam woolly adelgid is present.
- (K) **INSPECTOR** means an employee of the Department authorized to enforce the provisions of this quarantine.
- (L) **KILN DRIED (KD)** means lumber seasoned in a closed chamber by means of artificial heat to a maximum moisture content of 19 percent at time of surfacing.
- (M) **LOG** means tree parts usually cut into lengths 1.22 meters (4 feet) or longer.
- (N) **LUMBER** means timber sawed into boards, planks, or other structural members.
- (O) **MOVED (MOVE, MOVEMENT)** means shipped, held for shipment, received for shipment, transported, carried, or allowed to be moved or shipped.
- (P) **PERSON** means an individual, firm, association, partnership, corporation, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

### III. **PEST**

Balsam woolly adelgid, *Adelges piceae* (Ratzeburg)

### IV. **REGULATED AREAS**

The entire states of California, Connecticut, Idaho, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

The entire Canadian provinces of British Columbia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

Any other areas where balsam woolly adelgid is found to be established.

## **V. REGULATED ARTICLES**

Balsam woolly adelgid, *Adelges piceae* (Ratzeburg) in any living form.

Nursery stock; and, any of the following forest products with bark attached including: branches, boughs, logs, lumber and firewood of all true firs (*Abies* spp.) including but not limited to the following species:

Balsam fir, *Abies balsamea* (L.) Miller  
Bracted balsam fir, *Abies balsamea* var. *phanerolepis* Fernald  
European fir, *Abies alba* Miller  
Fraser fir, *Abies fraseri* (Pursh) Poiret.  
Grand fir, *Abies grandis* (Douglas ex D. Don in Lambert) Lindley  
Noble fir, *Abies procera* Rehder  
Pacific silver fir, *Abies amabilis* Douglas ex J. Forbes  
Shasta fir, *Abies magnifica* A. Murray  
Subalpine fir, *Abies lasiocarpa* (Hooker) Nuttall  
White fir, *Abies concolor* (Gordon & Glendinning) Hildebrand

## **VI. EXEMPTIONS**

1. Holiday greenery, such as cut Christmas trees, wreaths, boughs and grave blankets, from all true fir species if moved during the period of October 15 through December 31.
2. Douglas-fir, *Pseudotsuga* spp.
3. Composted or shredded bark and mulch of all true fir species.
4. Lumber, logs, firewood and other forest products of all true fir species with all bark completely removed.
5. Lumber, pallets and similar products that bear markings as being compliant with International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15, including American Lumber Standards Committee requirements for Kiln Dried (KD), Heat Treatment (HT), Dielectric Heat treatment (DH), or Kiln Dried Heat Treatment (KDHT) treatment procedures.
6. Treated firewood that is packaged and officially certified as being Kiln Dried (KD), Heat Treatment (HT), Dielectric Heat treatment (DH) or Kiln Dried Heat Treatment (KDHT) and clearly marked with the producer's name and address.
7. Lumber and posts that have been treated with wood preservatives compounds per label requirements of the compound.
8. Seeds and cones of *Abies* spp.
9. The Director may allow, with written approval, the movement of regulated articles from regulated areas, into Michigan for research purposes.

## **VII. RESTRICTIONS**

Except as provided in Section V, all regulated articles are prohibited entry into Michigan from any regulated area unless each lot or shipment is accompanied by an official certificate evidencing compliance with paragraphs (1) or (2) or (3) in this Section.

1. Originating from a pest-free area: Regulated articles are approved for entry into Michigan from a regulated area when: a) they originate from a county where balsam woolly adelgid is not known to occur based on official surveys conducted at least once every three years; and, b) balsam woolly adelgid is not known to occur in counties immediately adjacent to the county of origin based on official surveys conducted at least once every three years; and, c) they have not been held in a county known to be infested with balsam woolly adelgid; and, d) they have not been exposed to regulated articles from areas regulated for balsam woolly adelgid.
2. Production under an active pest management program: Seedlings and transplants of true fir (*Abies* spp.) no greater than 3 years old from the initial date of propagation may be certified for shipment into Michigan if produced under an active pest management program. An active pest management program must include the following components:
  - a. Bi-weekly monitoring performed during the period of April 1 through November 1. The grower must maintain pest monitoring records. If balsam woolly adelgid is detected during monitoring, a registered and effective insecticide treatment must be applied.
  - b. The grower must maintain insecticide treatment records.
  - c. The grower must have a documented training program for those employees who work with the seedling and transplant production blocks. The training must include how to identify balsam woolly adelgid and how to report pest detections.
  - d. Seedlings and transplants must undergo an insecticide treatment effective against balsam woolly adelgid within 7 days of shipment.
3. Heat treatment: Firewood with bark attached may be certified if the article has undergone heat treatment to a minimum core temperature of 56 degrees C. (132.8 degrees F.) for a minimum of 30 minutes.

## **VIII. CERTIFICATION AND SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Certificates** - Regulated articles meeting the requirements for entry into Michigan must be accompanied by a certificate issued by an authorized state agricultural official. The certificate must indicate the state and county of origin, the number and type of regulated articles and Additional Declarations as required in VII (2) or VII (3). Upon issuance, a copy of the certificate must be emailed to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division at MDARD-NurseryCE@Michigan.gov. A copy of the certificate shall accompany the regulated articles to their final destination.

2. **Advance notification of nursery stock shipments** - Consignors/shippers of regulated articles who ship into Michigan are required to provide MDARD with advance notification, which includes a copy of certification for the shipment and the name and address of the consignee (person receiving the shipment). The advance notification and a copy of the certificate must be emailed to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division at MDARD-NurseryCE@michigan.gov. A copy of the certificate shall accompany the regulated articles to their destination.
3. **Regulated articles originating from within a regulated area** - Must be accompanied by a State Phytosanitary Certificate or Certificate of Quarantine Compliance or equivalent certification documents indicating the state and county of origin, the number and type of regulated articles, and containing one of the following declarations as applicable to the commodity:
  - a. *The regulated articles originate from a county where balsam woolly adelgid is not known to occur based on official surveys conducted at least once every three years; Balsam woolly adelgid is not known to occur in counties immediately adjacent to the county of origin based on official surveys conducted at least once every three years; year of last surveys \_\_\_\_\_. The regulated articles have not been held in a county known to be infested with balsam woolly adelgid, and have not been held in proximity to regulated articles originating from areas where balsam woolly adelgid is known to occur.*
  - b. *Seedlings/transplants were produced under an active pest management program to control balsam woolly adelgid.*
  - c. *Firewood has undergone heat treatment to a minimum core temperature of 56 degrees Celsius (132.8°F) for a minimum of 30 minutes.*
4. **Regulated articles originating from states outside a regulated area** - Must be accompanied by a State Phytosanitary Certificate or Certificate of Quarantine Compliance or equivalent certification document indicating the state and county of origin, number and type of regulated articles, and containing the following declaration:

*"The regulated articles have not been held in the proximity of regulated articles originating from areas regulated for balsam woolly adelgid."*
5. **Transportation requirements** – Fir nursery stock species listed herein may be transported through an infested county, provided that: a) the nursery stock is enclosed by a covering adequate to prevent the introduction of balsam woolly adelgid (such as canvas, plastic, or closely woven cloth), or must be in an enclosed trailer body; and, b) the nursery stock was not off-loaded in the regulated area; and, c) no regulated articles which originated from a regulated area were added to the shipment

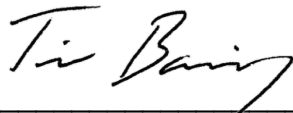
6. **Requirement to hold regulated articles upon receipt in Michigan** - Persons receiving regulated articles from interstate or international sources may not sell, offer for sale or further distribute the regulated articles unless a written release is issued to the consignee by the Department; or, unless the person is operating under a compliance agreement with the Department.

**IX. RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS**

Persons receiving regulated articles from interstate or international sources shall retain a copy of shipping records, invoices, waybills, bills of lading, State Phytosanitary Certificates, Certificates of Quarantine Compliance and equivalent certification documents for a period of 36 months after receipt of the articles.

**X. VIOLATIONS**

1. Any violation of this quarantine is subject to the full authority of Act No. 189, P.A. of 1931, as amended.
2. Common carriers or other carriers, persons, firms, or corporations who transport or move regulated articles in violation of this quarantine and these rules may be subject to the penalties described above.
3. Regulated articles transported in violation of this quarantine may be ordered destroyed or returned to the point of origin at the discretion of the Director.



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Dr. Tim Boring, Director

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May 20, 2025

Date

History: Promulgated 6/24/2014; Revisions: 5/7/2025