



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL
DIRECTOR

October 11, 2021

To: Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association
Michigan Green Industry Association
Michigan Christmas Tree Association
Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council
Michigan Agri-Business Association

Subject: Notification of Proposed Inspection Fee Changes for 2022

Based on an increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Fiscal Year 2021, the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development (the Commission) will be considering an increase in fees charged for nursery stock, Christmas tree, export, import, and other inspections. If approved, hourly-based fees will increase from \$63 per hour to \$65 per hour. Acreage-based fees will increase from \$57 to \$59 for the first acre, and from \$34 to \$35 for each additional acre. The fee increase will become effective January 1, 2022 and remain in effect through December 31, 2022.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) charges fees for inspection of plants and plant products as authorized under Public Act 189 of 1931, Insect Pests and Plant Diseases. Act 189 requires MDARD to evaluate its inspection costs annually and authorizes increases of inspection fees by not more than an amount determined by the State Treasurer to reflect the cumulative annual percentage change in the Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint (now called the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn) CPI over the previous one-year period, with the adjustment not to exceed 5%. Fee increases are subject to approval by the Commission.

The State Treasurer reported to MDARD a 2.8% increase in the CPI for Fiscal Year 2021. Based on this, MDARD is requesting the Commission to approve an increase in inspection fees during the November 10th Commission meeting.

Persons with specific concerns about the proposed inspection fee adjustments may express them to the Commission at:

Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
P.O. Box 30017
Lansing, MI 48909
517-284-5718 (Voice), 517-373-1104 (TTY)
mda-ag-commission@michigan.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Philip".

Michael Philip, Director
Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division