



Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Explanation of Nursery License Types

Revised August 2, 2024

License Type	Who is it for?	Annual License	Inspection Frequency†
Nursery Grower	Those who grow, cultivate (actively increase in size, quantity, or quality,) or overwinter winter-hardy nursery stock* for future sale. A Nursery Dealer License or Registered Nursery Dealer License is required for each additional location (including vehicles and farmer’s markets) from which sales occur concurrently, if any.	\$100	Annually***
Small-scale Nursery Grower	As above, except production is limited to less than 1/4 acre of outdoor growing area or 200 sq. ft. of greenhouse space. A Nursery Dealer License or a Registered Nursery Dealer License is also required for each additional location (including vehicles and farmer’s markets) from which sales occur concurrently, if any.	\$40	Annually***
Nursery Dealer	Those who buy and resell (i.e., do not grow, cultivate, or overwinter) winter-hardy nursery stock*. An additional Nursery Dealer license is required for each location or vehicle from which sales occur concurrently. This includes landscapers who purchase and install plants.	\$100	Every other year***
Registered Nursery Dealer	Those who buy and resell (i.e., do not grow, cultivate, or overwinter) winter-hardy nursery stock*, 100% of which is Michigan-grown**. A Registered Nursery Dealer License is required for each location or vehicle from which sales occur concurrently.	\$35	Periodic audits

†Also see the “Explanation of Inspection Fees” document at www.michigan.gov/mdardnursery

*Winter-hardy nursery stock includes trees, shrubs, perennials, fruit trees, berry plants, rose bushes, vines, herbs, and bulbs that are capable of surviving the winter, without special care, when planted outdoors in USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 6 or lower (see <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>). Annual plants, cut flowers and cut herbs, Christmas trees and greens, and *Chrysanthemum* not advertised as hardy are not included.

**Michigan-grown nursery stock includes nursery stock grown by a licensed Michigan nursery grower and inspected and certified by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Nursery stock purchased from a licensed nursery dealer (e.g., retail garden centers) does not qualify as Michigan-grown.

***Inspection frequency may be less frequent based on determinations by the Director.

Contact Andria McCubbin, MDARD’s Nursery Program Specialist at McCubbinA@Michigan.gov or 517-599-5748 for more information.