



2019 Requirements for Export of Christmas Trees and Greens of Washington State Origin

Updated 10/14/2019

This is a summary of the requirements to ship cut Christmas trees and greens grown in Washington, to other states, territories, and foreign countries. Inspections and certificates are provided by Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) personnel. To arrange an inspection, please review the information in this summary and contact WSDA at least five days in advance. **Requests should be scheduled as far in advance as possible.** Destination shipping requirements are subject to change.

Fees: Licensed Christmas tree growers will be charged \$50.00 per hour for all inspections, including witnessing the shaking of trees. Travel time will be charged at this hourly rate and mileage will be charged at \$0.58/mile, for round trip mileage. WSDA will issue one phytosanitary certificate free at the time of inspection. The fee for a phyto issued more than 24 hours after inspection will be \$24.50. Additional phytosanitary certificates are charged at \$8.25 each.

If an import permit is required, the exporter must furnish a copy of the original permit and an English translation to WSDA before any inspection documents will be issued.

State Phytosanitary Certification for Domestic Shipments:

Brown Garden Snail certificate/stamp must accompany each consignment of Christmas trees and greens to Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. (Oregon does not require BGS certificates for cut greens & trees).

Origin Statement: Many states treat cut Christmas trees and holiday greens the same as live plant material and require an origin certificate. This can be a statement on your bill of lading or invoice, showing the state and county where grown.

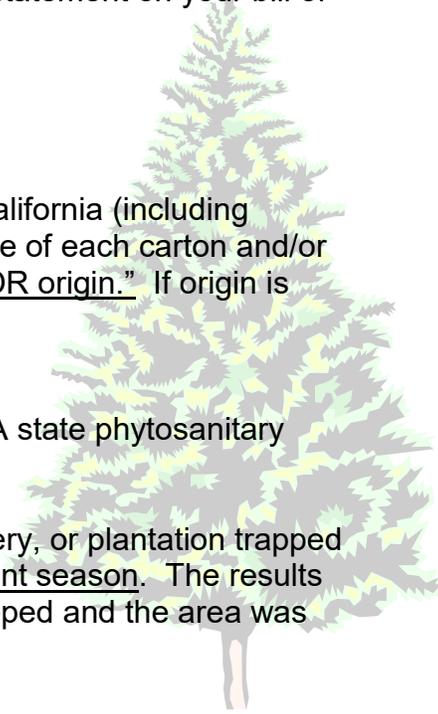
California:

Christmas trees, wreaths, garlands, and bulk greens shipped to California (including Juniper) must have the state of origin clearly marked on the outside of each carton and/or on the shipping document or invoice. “Plant material of WA &/or OR origin.” If origin is Oregon, include the county name.

European Pine Shoot Moth-

A WSDA compliance agreement for shipping trapped pine or a WA state phytosanitary certificate for each shipment is required.

Shipments of pine trees and boughs must come from a field, nursery, or plantation trapped and found free of European Pine Shoot Moth (EPSM) for the current season. The results must have been negative or no more than two (2) moths were trapped and the area was



effectively treated using dimethoate, chlorpyrifos, or phosmet as directed by the origin regulatory agency. This includes any plant part of all pine tree species bearing terminal buds, needles, or shoots.

Bulk cut pine can alternatively be fumigated with methyl bromide, if from an area that wasn't trapped negative. The fumigation must be witnessed by a WSDA inspector. Schedule any fumigation well in advance of your shipment.

NOTE: Cut pine in wreaths are exempt from EPSM fumigation requirements when entering California. (No phyto required).

Hawaii:

Cut pine branches and trees are allowed during the period from October 20 to December 31 only. They must be accompanied by a state phyto listing the state of origin. Outside these dates, pine shipments must be accompanied by a state phyto with State of Origin listed and an AD saying that the pine boughs have been treated.

All shipping containers must be free from soil and debris and care must be taken to prevent contamination of Christmas trees and containers with soil during storage and loading procedures.

NOTE: ALL trees to Hawaii must be mechanically shaken to qualify for certification.

The debris shaken from the trees must be examined for the presence of live insect pests by an inspector. If live yellow jackets, slugs or snails are found in any trees in the consignment, the load will not qualify for export. After reconditioning, the entire lot can be re-shaken and debris examined again. Trees that sit on the ground or loading dock after inspection can be reinfested with slugs, so be careful.

A state phytosanitary certificate **must** accompany the inspected shipment. Certificates should be placed in a waterproof plastic envelope and securely attached to the inside of the container door.

Shipments of certified Christmas trees will undergo cursory destination inspection for yellow jacket queens, slugs and snails on arrival in Honolulu.

AD Required: "The trees in this shipment were cut from an area that was trapped and found free of Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria Dispar*) and is apparently free of Yellow Jacket Queens (*Vespula* spp.), snails and slugs and other detrimental pests by 100% mechanical shaking."

Shipments of uncertified Christmas trees will receive thorough destination inspection for insect pests by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, or may be rejected.

Wreaths do not require a phyto but do require a statement of origin or WSDA inspection sticker on accompanying paperwork. Noble fir must be free of *Uredinopsis* rust symptoms.

Montana:

EPSM - Cut pine trees, branches, or twigs for ornamental purposes from Washington or Oregon must be accompanied by a phyto certificate issued by the state of origin certifying that the trees were produced in an area in which European Pine Shoot Moth is known not to exist, based on negative trapping data at the growing site, with a zero tolerance.

Montana will also allow for a shipping point inspection of each load. This will require that each tree be inspected prior to shipment.

The phytosanitary certificate should include an additional declaration stating that either “This shipment comes from an area trapped for and found free of European Pine Shoot Moth” or “The pine trees in this shipment were inspected and found apparently free from European Pine Shoot Moth.”

New Mexico:

Shipping documents must indicate the origin of the cut trees or branches.

Oregon:

Notification of WA origin cut trees, branches and greens is required by the recipient in Oregon. Cut trees and branches can be shipped with an inspection certificate stating origin.

- EPSM – Oregon has rescinded their EPSM quarantine and no longer requires trapping or fumigation for this pest.
- Oregon does not require BGS cert for cut greens & trees.

Guam:

Guam now has requirements similar to Mexico. A **state** phytosanitary certificate is required, attesting to compliance with the following requirements: All trees to Guam must now be 100% mechanically shaken at a minimum of 15 seconds at 700 revolutions per minute. Trees must be free of dead branches, twigs and yellow or red needles caused by pests or diseases. A pesticide treatment 3 to 6 weeks prior to harvest is required, with one of the following active ingredients: permethrin @ 36.8% a.i.; esfenvalerate @ 8.4% a.i.; bifenthrin @ 7.9% a.i., in accordance with label requirements. The treatment must be witnessed by a WSDA inspector.

Puerto Rico:

A state phytosanitary certificate is required stating that the trees were inspected and found apparently free of plant pests. Trees and containers must be free of soil. To avoid rejection, it would be advisable to process the trees with a mechanical shaker.



Federal Phytosanitary Certification for International Shipments:

Foreign shipments of Christmas trees and their containers must be free from soil.

Canada:

From November 1 to January 31, cut Christmas trees of Washington origin, wreaths and greens can be shipped to British Columbia without a PC or an IP. The origin must be clearly stated on the shipping label or bill of lading. The rest of the year, *Abies spp* cut trees and branches from WA are prohibited to British Columbia, unless an import permit is presented. **A PC is required to British Columbia between November 1 and January 31 for *Abies* trees originating from Oregon and California. The origin must be declared regarding *Adelges piceae* (balsam woolly adelgid).**

An import permit and FPC are required for green conifer cones (with seeds). Dry cones (without seeds) are unrestricted.

China:

Federal phytosanitary certificate and import permit are required for all commodities, including cut trees and branches. **Do not certify unless an IP is presented.**

Costa Rica:

Federal phytosanitary certificate and import permit are required for cut branches and trees. **Do not certify unless an IP is presented.** An English translation of an Import Permit **must** be presented. Must be free from soil.

El Salvador:

Federal phytosanitary certificate and import permit are required. Original certificate of origin is required. Trees & containers must be free of soil.

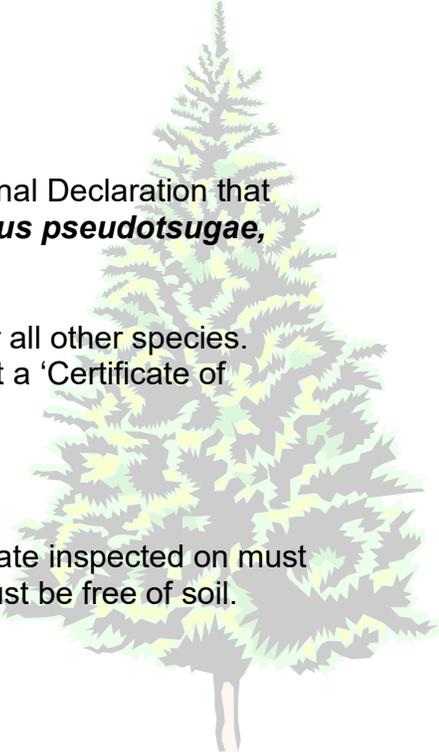
Guatemala:

Phytosanitary certificate required for *Pseudotsuga* cut trees. Additional Declaration that **“The shipment is free of *Choristoneura fumiferana*, *Dendroctonus pseudotsugae*, *Monochamus scutellatus* and *Phaeocryptopus gaeumannii*”.**

A Federal phytosanitary certificate and import permit are required for all other species. Trees and containers must be free of soil. Exporters must also fill out a 'Certificate of Attestation' to accompany the shipment.

Hong Kong:

A Federal phytosanitary certificate and import permit are required. Date inspected on must be not more than 14 days before shipment. Trees and containers must be free of soil.



Japan:

A Federal phytosanitary certificate is required.

To avoid the possibility of Japan rejecting a shipment because of live insects or dead or diseased needles, it is advisable to process all trees with a mechanical shaker before certification. Shipments may be rejected, treated or destroyed if pests are detected upon arrival.

Republic of Korea:

Federal phyto certificate required. For *P. ramorum* host species and hemlock from WA, the county and state of origin must be noted on the PC. Additional Declaration that, ***"This shipment was inspected and found free of Phytophthora ramorum."***

Hosts from Oregon and California further restricted. Cut or live pine trees and branches are prohibited. Trees and containers must be free of soil. Inspection must take place not more than 30 days before shipment.

Mexico:

Christmas trees and conifer branches ***other than Abies spp., Pinus sylvestris, Pinus nigra, or Pseudotsuga menziesii*** are prohibited. Live trees of these species are prohibited.

A Federal phyto certificate is required. The PC must be issued in the state and county of origin and must include the name of the plantation where trees were produced.

Additional Declaration Required: ***"The trees of this shipment were inspected, it was determined that the shipment complies with the phytosanitary requirements, and found free of quarantine pests for Mexico in accordance with NOM-013-SEMARNAT-2010"***

Contact a WSDA inspector to receive the full regulations as explained in the "Christmas Trees and Branches to Mexico" document. It contains a complete list of quarantine pests (zero tolerance) and actions that must be completed in order export cut trees.

A pyrethroid treatment three to six weeks prior to cutting must be conducted and should be recorded in the treatment section of the certificate.

Shipped trees must be 100% mechanically shaken prior to shipment for 15 seconds minimum at 700 revolutions per minute.

The trees must be free of dead branches and twigs, and yellow or red needles caused by pests or diseases. Trees must not be painted, dyed, or flocked.

Specific points of entry into Mexico must be adhered to.

Philippines:

Federal phyto and import clearance permit required.

Trees must be shaken with a mechanical shaker by a minimum of three or more strikes, or until most of the dead needles have been removed. Each unbound tree should be mechanically shaken for a period of time sufficient to dislodge any "hitchhiking" insects and other contaminants, and/or until most of the dead needles fall is eliminated. Appropriate treatment (insecticide, fungicide, etc.) should be applied prior to export and must be stated on the PC; (Import Permit/SPSIC will advise pests of concern). Containers must be free from soil and debris to prevent contamination of Christmas trees. The trees must be free of dead branches, twigs, and yellow and red needles caused by pests or diseases. The trees must be without roots and soil and not painted. Sanitary Phytosanitary Import Clearance (SPSIC) number must be stated on the PC.

Singapore:

Cut foliage (cut trees, greens, branches) require a Federal phytosanitary certificate. Soil is prohibited.

Taiwan:

Cut trees and branches of *Pseudotsuga* and *Abies* species are prohibited. An import permit is required. An English translation of an import permit **must** be presented.

All other foreign countries:

Federal phyto certificate is required.

Importer should obtain import permit and English translation to facilitate meeting importing country's requirements.

For a specific country's shipping requirements, contact your area WSDA inspector or WSDA in Olympia at 360-902-1874, or USDA in Seattle at 206-878-6600.

Note: This summary lists known export requirements for certain states and countries, but shipping requirements are subject to change without notice. Exporters should inquire with their area inspector prior to harvest to receive the most up-to-date information.