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must provide APHIS with a description of the variety, including a written description and color pictures that can be used by an inspector to clearly identify the variety and distinguish it from other varities.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0186)

[67 FR 8179, Feb. 22, 2002, as amended at 71 FR 5778, Feb. 3, 2006; 72 FR 32167, June 12, 2007; 72 FR 72233, Dec. 20, 2007;75 FR 29193, May 25, 2010; 75 FR 54462, Sept. 8, 2010]

§ 301.38–3 Protected areas.

(a) The Administrator may designate as a protected area in paragraph (d) of this section any State that has eradicated rust-susceptible plants of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia* under the cooperative Federal-State eradication program. In addition, the State must employ personnel with responsibility for the issuance and withdrawal of certificates in accordance with § 301.38–5, and maintain and enforce an inspection program under which every plant nursery within the State is inspected at least once each year to ensure that they are free of rust-susceptible plants. During the requisite nursery inspections, all nursery stock shall be examined to determine that it consists only of rust-resistant varieties of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia*, and that the plants are true to type. Plants that do not meet this criteria must be destroyed.

(b) The Administrator may designate as a protected area any county within a State, rather than the entire State, if areas within the State have eradicated rust-susceptible plants of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia* under the cooperative Federal-State program, and;

(1) The State employs personnel with responsibility for the issuance and withdrawal of certificates in accordance with § 301.38–5;

(2) The State is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of the regulated articles that are equivalent to those imposed by this subpart on the interstate movement of regulated articles, as determined by the Administrator; and

(3) The State maintains and enforces an inspection program under which every plant nursery within the county is inspected at least once each year to ensure that plant nurseries within that area are free of rust-susceptible plants of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia*. During the requisite nursery inspections, all nursery stock shall be examined to determine that it consists only of rust-resistant varieties of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia*, and that the plants are true to type. Plants that do not meet this criteria must be destroyed.

(c) All seed used to propagate plants of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia* in protected areas, and all seed used to propagate plants of the genera *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia* that are certified as rust-resistant for interstate movement into protected areas, must be produced at properties where a State inspector has verified that no wild or domesticated rust-susceptible plants are growing at or within one-half mile of the property.[4]

(d) The following are designated as protected areas:

(1) The States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

[4] Persons performing the inspections must be able to recognize rust-susceptible varieties of *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia*. Inspectors must work side by side, 10 to 20 feet apart, and walk outward away from the property a distance of one-half mile measured from the edge of the property, and observe all plants growing in the half-mile band. The distance between the inspectors may vary within this range, depending upon the visibility of the plant growth. In areas with low brush and flat terrain, the inspectors may be the maximum distance of 20 feet apart if they can observe all plants growing within 10 feet of them. In areas of high plant growth or hilly terrain, the inspectors must be closer together due to limited or obstructed visibility. Inspectors must observe all plants growing between themselves and the mid-point of the distance between themselves and the next inspector. This process must be repeated so that the entire band, measured from the border of the property to the circumference of an imaginary circle having the property as its mid-point, is visually inspected in this manner.

(2) The following counties in the State of Washington: Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, Yakima.

(e) Each State that is a protected area or that encompasses a protected area must submit annually to the Administrator a written statement, signed by an inspector, assuring APHIS that all nursery inspections have been performed in accordance with this section. The statement must be submitted by January 1st of each year, and must include a list of the nurseries inspected and found free of rust-susceptible plants.

(f) The Administrator may remove a protected area from the list of designated protected areas in paragraph (d) of this section if he or she determines that it no longer meets the criteria of paragraph (a) or (b)(1) through (3) of this section. A hearing will be held to resolve any conflict as to any material fact. Rules of practice for the hearing shall be adopted by the Administrator.

[54 FR 32791, Aug. 10, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 29558, July 20, 1990; 57 FR 3118, Jan. 28, 1992; 71 FR 5778, Feb. 3, 2006]

§ 301.38–4 Interstate movement of regulated articles.

(a) *Non-protected areas.* Interstate movement of regulated articles into or through any State or area that is not designated as a protected area under § 301.38–3(d) is allowed without restriction under this subpart.

(b) *Protected areas.* (1) *Prohibited movement.* The following regulated articles are prohibited from moving interstate into or through any protected area:

(i) All rust-susceptible *Berberis*, *Mahoberberis*, and *Mahonia* plants, seeds, fruits, and other plant parts capable of propagation, except Mahonia cuttings for decorative purposes.

(ii) All seed-propagated plants of the *Berberis* species and varieties designated as rust-resistant in § 301.38–2(a)(1) of this subpart that are of less than 2 years' growth, and any seeds, fruits, and other plant parts capable of propagation from such plants.

(2) *Restricted movement.* The following regulated articles may be moved interstate into or through a protected area with a certificate issued and attached in accordance with §§ 301.38–5 and 301.38–7 of this subpart:

(i) Seed-propagated plants of at least 2 years' growth, clonally propagated plants of any age, seeds, fruits, and other plant parts capable of propagation of the *Berberis* species and varieties designated as rust-resistant in § 301.38–2(a)(1) of this subpart;

(ii) Plants, seeds, fruits, and other plant parts capable of propagation of the *Mahoberberis* and *Mahonia* species and varieties designated as rust-resistant in § 301.38–2(a)(2) of this subpart.

(c) An inspector may issue a limited permit to allow a regulated article not eligible for certification under § 301.38–4(b)(2) to move interstate into or through a protected area to a specified destination that is stated in the permit and is outside the protected area, if the requirements of all other applicable Federal domestic plant quarantines are met. A regulated article moved interstate under a limited permit must be placed in a closed sealed container that prevents unauthorized removal of the regulated article, and that remains sealed until the regulated article reaches the final destination stated in the permit. At the final destination, the sealed container must be opened only in the presence of an inspector or with the authorization of an inspector obtained expressly for that shipment.

(d) The United States Department of Agriculture may move any regulated article interstate into or through a protected area in accordance with the conditions determined necessary to prevent the introduction or spread of black stem rust in protected areas, as specified in a Departmental permit issued for this purpose.

[54 FR 32791, Aug. 10, 1989, as amended at 67 FR 8180, Feb. 22, 2002; 71 FR 5778, Feb. 3, 2006]

§ 301.38–5 Assembly and inspection of regulated articles: issuance and cancellation of certificates.

(a) Any person, other than a person authorized to issue certificates under paragraph (c) of this section, who desires to move interstate a regulated article that must be accompanied by a