

# GLOSSARY

## Introduction to Plant Health Regulations

A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N,  
O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

### TERM:

### DEFINITION:

## A

### **Act**

A law enacted by Congress. Also called a statute.

### **Agricultural economy**

The wealth and resources of a country or region that is derived from the production and consumption of agricultural goods.

### **APHIS**

Acronym for the “Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service” (pronounced ‘A-fiss’), which is an agency within the Marketing and Regulatory Programs mission area of USDA.

### **Appendix**

A term used by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) for listings of protected plants under varying degrees of trade restriction. There are three Appendixes:

- Appendix I lists species immediately threatened with extinction.
- Appendix II lists species that may become threatened with extinction if trade is not restricted
- Appendix III lists species protected by an individual member country who requests assistance from other members because the local population is under pressure

## B

## C

### **CBP**

Abbreviation for Customs and Border Protections. A partner agency under the Department of Homeland Security.

### **CFR**

Abbreviation for Code of Federal Regulations.

### **Code of Federal Regulations**

The regulations written by an Agency, such as APHIS, at the behest of the Secretary of Agriculture or similar authority, and which carry the force of law.

### **Commodity**

A type of plant, plant product, or other article being moved for trade or other purpose.

**TERM:**

**DEFINITION:**

**Customs and Border Protection**

A bureau (agency) within the Department of Homeland Security responsible for securing and facilitating trade and travel while enforcing U.S. regulations covering immigration, drugs, and agriculture.

**D**

**Department of Homeland Security**

A department within the Executive Branch of the federal government whose mission is to secure the U.S. against those who seek to disrupt the American way of life and to prepare for and respond to hazards and disasters

**Detector Dog Team**

A team consisting of a handler and dog (beagle or other breed) trained by PPQ at the National Detector Dog Training Center (NDDTC) for the purpose of locating regulated agricultural articles imported into the U.S. that may be undeclared.

**DHS**

Abbreviation for "Department of Homeland Security."

**E**

**Economic Threshold**

The density of a pest population at which the crop losses exceed the cost of applying control measures.

**Endangered Species Act**

The U.S. law passed in 1973 to protect critically imperiled species from extinction due to human activity untempered by adequate concern and conservation.

**Equivalence**

The recognition and acceptance of alternative sanitary and phytosanitary measures shown to provide the same level of health protection as a nation's existing standards.

**EPA**

Abbreviation for "*Environmental Protection Agency.*"

**E-page**

The sequential page number located on the Acrobat Reader tool bar near the top of the screen. You can jump to any page in the e-document by pressing Ctrl+Shift+N then entering the number in the *Go to Page* dialogue box.

**ESA**

Abbreviation for Endangered Species Act.

**F**

**Facilitate**

To make easier or less difficult.

**FAO**

Abbreviations for "*Food and Agricultural Organization.*" An agency of the United Nations that leads the international effort to defeat hunger, and which provides a forum where nations can meet to debate and set agricultural policy.

**Federal Register**

A daily publication that makes available to the public the rules, regulations and other legal notices issued by federal agencies.

**FSA**

Abbreviation for the "*Federal Seed Act.*" "

**TERM:**

**DEFINITION:**

**Federal Seed Act of 1939 (FSA)**

A federal law that requires accurate labeling and purity standards for seeds in commerce, and prohibits the importation and movement of adulterated or misbranded seeds. In conjunction with the Plant Protection Act of 2000, FSA authorize APHIS to regulate the importation of field crop, pasture and forage, or vegetable seed that may contain noxious weed seeds.

**G**

**H**

**Harmonization**

Adopting SPS measures that conform to standards, guidelines, and/or recommendations of international agencies.

**I**

**Intrastate movement**

Movement within the boundaries of a state.

**Interstate movement**

Movement between states.

**IPPC**

Abbreviation for "*International Plant Protection Convention.*" An International agreement on plant health with 177 signatory countries.

**ISPM**

Abbreviation for "*International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures.*" A set of standards prepared by the Secretariat of the IPPC for the FAO's global program of policy and technical assistance in plant quarantine.

**J**

**K**

**L**

**M**

**MB**

Abbreviation for "*Mexican Border.*" The geographic designation for states in the southwest U.S., used to regulate the importation of fruits and vegetables based on ecological conditions.

**Montreal Protocol**

Refers to the "*Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.*" A treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of substances responsible for ozone depletion.

**TERM:****DEFINITION:****Move, Moving, and Movement**

The terms “move”, “moving”, and “movement” mean—

- (A) to carry, enter, import, mail, ship, or transport;
- (B) to aid, abet, cause, or induce the carrying, entering, importing, mailing, shipping, or transporting;
- (C) to offer to carry, enter, import, mail, ship, or transport;
- (D) to receive to carry, enter, import, mail, ship, or transport;
- (E) to release into the environment;

**N****NA**

Abbreviation for “*North Atlantic*.” The geographic designation for states in the northeastern U.S., used to regulate the importation of fruits and vegetables based on ecological conditions.

**North American Plant Protection Organization**

A regional plant protection organization whose members include Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

**NAPPO**

Acronym for “*North American Plant Protection Organization*.”

**Non-discrimination**

A phytosanitary principle stating that phytosanitary measures shall be applied without discrimination between countries of the same phytosanitary status, and measures shall be applied without discrimination between domestic and imported consignments.

**NP**

Abbreviation for “*Northern Pacific*.” The geographic designation for states in the northwestern U.S., used to regulate the importation of fruits and vegetables based on ecological conditions.

**O****P****Page Number**

The printed page number located near the bottom of the page on pdf documents.

**Pathway**

Any means that allows the entry or spread of a pest, for example, a fruit or vegetable, a container, or a means of transport such as a railway or air cargo.

**pdf**

Three-letter file extension that stands for “*portable document format*.” Pdf is the file format developed by Adobe Systems for document exchange. Pdf files may be opened and read with ‘Adobe Acrobat Reader,’ a program that can be downloaded for free from Adobe Systems, and that is installed standard on APHIS computers.

**Pest**

Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogen injurious to plants or plant products.

**Pest Risk**

The probability of the introduction and subsequent spread of a pest, and the extent of the potential economic (or environmental) harm.

**Pest Risk Analysis**

(See “Risk Analysis”)

**TERM:****DEFINITION:**

<b>Phytosanitary</b>	Relating to plant health or the protection of plant health.
<b>Plant Quarantine</b>	All activities designed to prevent the introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests or to enhance their official control.
<b>Postentry</b>	A quarantine applied to a consignment of imported nursery stock after it has entered the U.S. requiring the plant to be grown in isolation for a time.
<b>PPQ</b>	Abbreviation for " <i>Plant Protection and Quarantine</i> " – A program unit within the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), that is responsible for safeguarding plant health and the environment.
<b>Preclearance</b>	The treatment, inspection, certification, and clearance of a commodity in the country of origin by a PPQ official stationed there for that purpose.
<b>Procedure</b>	An established method that allows different work units, agencies, or organizations to achieve comparable and legally defensible results. A Protocol.
<b>Prohibition</b>	The application of a sanitary or phytosanitary regulation forbidding the importation or movement of a pest or commodity.
<b>Propagation</b>	In horticulture — to produce new plants by both artificial and natural means such as layering, grafting, cuttings, planting, etc.
<b>Propagule</b>	Any plant part capable of propagation such as seeds, spores, or vegetative structures (cuttings, buds, leaf section, bulbs, rhizomes, roots, and sprouts).
<b>Protectionism</b>	The practice of nurturing or developing domestic industries by protecting them from foreign competition through duties or quotas imposed on importations.
<b>Protocols</b>	Agreed-upon <u>standards</u> and <u>practices</u> that allow different organizations to manufacture items or produce results that are either compatible or comparable, and that allow organizations to work coherently within a larger system. In PPQ, protocols take the form of 'procedures.'

**Q**

<b>Quarantine</b>	The official confinement of regulated articles for inspection, testing, treatment, or exclusion, or for observation and research.
<b>Quarantine Pest</b>	A pest of potential economic importance to a region where it might be introduced, or to a region where it is present, but not widely distributed and where it is being officially controlled.

**R**

<b>Regional Plant Protection Organizations</b>	Inter-governmental organizations that coordinate the phytosanitary actions of their national plant protection organizations, for example NAPPO (the North American Plant Protection Organization).
<b>Regionalization</b>	Adapting phytosanitary measures to regional conditions. The concept recognizes that pest distribution is determined by geographic and ecological conditions rather than political borders.

**TERM:****DEFINITION:**

<b>Regulation</b>	A short form of the term “Code of Federal Regulations” or CFR.
<b>Restricted</b>	Refers to limiting the movement of articles to those authorized by regulation, treatment, inspection, or documentation.
<b>Risk</b>	The likelihood and impact of an adverse event, such as a pest infestation. Includes some measure of the probability of harm and the level of severity, either qualitative or quantitative, determined by a risk assessment.
<b>Risk Analysis</b>	A three-part process for evaluating risk including risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication.
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The <b>process</b> of evaluating the likelihood of an adverse event occurring (such as pest outbreak) and the severity of the consequences resulting from that event.
<b>Risk Communication</b>	The sharing of risk information and resulting feedback. An open, two-way exchange of information and opinion leading to better understanding and better management decisions.
<b>Risk Management</b>	The process of deciding which remedies to apply to reduce risk. In the case of pest risk, the remedies include: (A) inspection—at point of origin, on arrival, or both. (B) Treatment—the physical or chemical removal of the risk. (C) Containment—physical, biological, and behavioral requirements that minimize escape. (D) Prohibition—the denial of movement or entry. (E) Some combination of the above.
<b>RPPO</b>	Abbreviation for “ <i>Regional Plant Protection Organization.</i> ”

**S**

<b>Safeguarding</b>	The application of measures to prevent damage to the agricultural economy of the United States from plant pests and disease.
<b>SAG</b>	Abbreviation for “ <i>South Atlantic and Gulf.</i> ” The geographic designation for states in the southeastern U.S., used to regulate the importation of fruits and vegetables based on ecological conditions.
<b>Sanitary</b>	Relating to animal health or the protection of animal health.
<b>SPS</b>	Abbreviation for “ <i>Sanitary and phytosanitary.</i> ”
<b>Standard</b>	Refers to the criterion for quality and accuracy that a facility or individual must meet to achieve certification.
<b>Statute</b>	A law enacted by Congress, an Act. Additionally, may refer to a codified section of an Act called the United States Code (U.S.C.). The Plant Protection Act, for example, may be cited as follows: 7 U.S.C. 7701 through 7 U.S.C 7751. Generally, statutes are cited when there are no corresponding regulations, which may happen when authorizing an emergency action for a new pest.

## T

### Transparency

Sharing information. Being open and honest about your phytosanitary requirements. Transparency promotes trust by allowing others to confirm that your regulations are not trade barriers disguised as legitimate phytosanitary restrictions.

### Treatment

The removal or reduction of a pest risk associated with an agricultural article by the application of a formal remedy. Remedies include physical removal, fumigation, the application of heat or cold, or the application of other physical, chemical, or nonchemical procedures.

### Treaty

A formal agreement between independent nations meant to improve the public welfare.

## U

### URL

Abbreviation for “*Uniform Resource Locator*”: a protocol for specifying addresses on the Internet.

Example: <http://treatments.cphst.org/vessels/>

## V

## W

### World Trade Organization – SPS Agreement

World Trade Organization *Sanitary and Phytosanitary* Agreement. An agreement that sets the basic rules for food safety and animal and plant health standards allowing countries to develop and use their own internal standards, but requiring such standards be science-based, not arbitrary.

### WTO

Abbreviation for “*World Trade Organization*.”

## X

## Y

## Z