

Questions and Answers - Japanese beetle

This page is part of the Guidance Document Repository (GDR).

Looking for related documents?

[Search for related documents in the Guidance Document Repository](#)

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulates the movement of articles that can carry Japanese beetle (JB) to prevent its spread from parts of Canada where it is present to areas that are pest-free. The provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are considered infested with JB and movement of regulated articles from these areas to other parts of Canada must meet certain requirements to prevent further spread.

What is Japanese Beetle (JB)?

Japanese beetle (JB), *Popillia japonica*, is a plant pest native to Japan that attacks roots, foliage and fruit of a variety of host plants, including elm, maple, rose, zinnia, corn, asparagus, grape, apple, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries. The JB larvae favour turf grass as their host, while adults feed on the leaves and fruit of a wide variety of host plants.

Where does JB come from and when was it confirmed present in North America?

The beetle is native to the main islands of Japan. It was first discovered in North America in New Jersey in 1916 and first recorded in Canada in Yarmouth, NS, in 1939.

Which articles are regulated for JB?

All underground plant parts (such as bulbs or whole plants with roots) with soil and/or growing media are regulated for JB under the CFIA's directive [D-96-15: Phytosanitary requirements to prevent the spread of Japanese beetle, *Popillia japonica*, in Canada and the United States](#).

What do I need to know about moving regulated articles in Canada?

Regulated articles moving to British Columbia or Newfoundland and Labrador from other parts of Canada must meet certain requirements to ensure they are free from JB. These requirements are described in the CFIA's directive [D-96-15: Phytosanitary requirements to prevent the spread of Japanese beetle, *Popillia japonica*, in Canada and the United States](#). There are no restrictions related to JB for movement of

articles to provinces and territories other than British Columbia and Newfoundland and Labrador.

To move regulated articles to British Columbia or Newfoundland and Labrador from elsewhere in Canada, a [CFIA](#) Movement Certificate is required. Please [contact your local CFIA office](#) for more information.

Why are regulated areas established?

Regulated areas are established to restrict the spread of unwanted pests outside of those areas. This is achieved by maintaining and enforcing restrictions on the movement of potentially infested articles out of areas where a quarantine pest has been found. In the case of [JB](#), the regulated articles include all plants with soil. Regulated articles can be freely moved within a regulated area, but cannot be moved outside of a regulated area without a [CFIA](#) Movement Certificate. Any person who violates these prohibitions or restrictions of movement may be subject to a fine and/or liable to prosecution.

What does the [CFIA](#) do to prevent the spread of [JB](#) in Canada?

The [CFIA](#) cooperates and consults with its partners at all levels, stakeholders and industry to implement strategies to control [JB](#) and slow its spread. The [CFIA](#) also educates the public and members of the landscaping and gardening industry on the restrictions and options for movement of regulated commodities where regulated areas are established.

How does [JB](#) spread?

As a beetle, [JB](#) is capable of movement on its own through flight (local spread). Long-distance spread occurs primarily through human activities like the movement of infested plants with soil from one area to another.

Will there be compensation for losses associated with the destruction of any plants infested or destroyed by [JB](#)?

There is no compensation available for actions related to [JB](#) control.

What are the potential economic consequences of [JB](#) spread in Canada?

A change in the [JB](#) regulatory status of an area from pest-free to infested does not pose a trade barrier, but could increase industry production costs by requiring regulated articles to be treated prior to export to pest-free areas in the United States.

There may also be significant costs associated with damage to grass, flowers and

trees in parks and private properties.

What should I do if I find JB in my garden?

If you find JB outside the regulated areas (outside the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island), please report the find to your [local CFIA office](#). For JB infestations within regulated areas, it is unfortunately outside the CFIA's mandate to provide advice on how to manage JB infestations. Your provincial ministry of agriculture may be able to provide additional information.

CFIA's Control Measures for JB

How is the spread of JB being controlled?

The spread of the JB is controlled by restricting the movement of identified regulated articles from within the regulated areas established by the CFIA to outside the regulated areas.

Where can I get detailed information about the CFIA's requirements?

For detailed information on the CFIA's requirements for JB, please see directive [D-96-15: Phytosanitary requirements to prevent the spread of Japanese beetle, *Popillia japonica*, in Canada and the United States](#) or contact your [local CFIA office](#).

How is the public being informed?

Information is posted on the CFIA website. In addition, the CFIA is in contact with its partners and stakeholders, including nurseries and garden centres.

What can I do to help?

The CFIA is asking for everybody's assistance in avoiding the movement of regulated articles out of the regulated areas without prior written permission from the CFIA. For more information, please call your [local CFIA office](#). You can also assist the CFIA by reporting all illegal movement of regulated articles.

Date modified:
2017-08-08