

## Frequently Asked Questions for Texas Nurseries

### Cotton Jassid Emergency Quarantine

**Q: What is the current status of the quarantine?**

A: An emergency quarantine is currently in effect (issued February 5, 2026) to prevent the spread of the cotton jassid, an invasive pest that can reduce crop yields by up to 50%.

**Q: Which areas are affected?**

A: The quarantine applies to shipments entering Texas from infested states (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, TN, SC, and NC) and to specific Texas counties with confirmed detections, including Cameron, Grimes, Fort Bend, and Wharton.

**Q: What are "regulated articles"?**

A: All living hostable field crops and nursery plants (especially those in the Malvaceae, Solanaceae, Fabaceae, Asteraceae families e.g. Hibiscus, cotton, sunflower, Kenaf, Okra, Nightshade, etc.

**Q: Can I move host plants into or within Texas?**

A: Movement is prohibited unless plants are accompanied by a Phytosanitary document (certificate, permit or compliance agreement) confirming the plants are pest-free based on inspection and treatment.

**Q: What happens if a shipment lacks documentation?**

A: Shipments without proper phytosanitary documentation will be rejected at road stations and diverted. Vehicles transporting unapproved products may be impounded or subject to forfeiture.

**Q: How should I treat an infestation?**

The TDA suggests generic leafhopper treatments to facilitate shipping. For specific recommendations, nurseries should contact their [nearest County AgriLife Extension Office](#).

**Q: How do I report a suspected sighting?**

Contact the TDA Plant Quality program at [PlantQuality@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:PlantQuality@TexasAgriculture.gov) or call (512) 463-7660.

**Q: How do I know if my nursery is inside the quarantine zone?**

A: TDA publishes official maps and notices. Nurseries should review the TDA website. <https://texasagriculture.gov/Regulatory-Programs/Plant-Quality/Pest-and-Disease-Alerts/Cotton-Jassid-Two-Spot-Cotton-Leafhopper>

**Q: How long will the quarantine last?**

A: Emergency quarantines will remain in place until TDA formally lifts the order and/or a permanent rule is in place.