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**Box Tree Moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) Certification Standard**

# Introduction and Scope

This document (BTMCS-2023-03-A) outlines the requirements to have a CNCI-approved box tree moth (BTM) Pest Module under the Clean Plants Domestic Phytosanitary Certification Program (“Clean Plants”). Nurseries already participating in Clean Plants may add this Pest Module to their existing programs. Facilities new to Clean Plants have the option to participate in the Phase-In BTM Certification Program for up to two years while they complete the process of becoming fully Clean Plants certified. Facilities wishing to ship boxwood plants out of Ontario must have a CFIA-approved pest module, and this BTM certification standard developed for Clean Plants meets the requirements of D-22-04. For more information on Clean Plants, visit the CNCI’s website: [www.cleanplants.ca](http://www.cleanplants.ca).

The BTM Pest Module employs a systematic approach to minimize risk of the introduction and spread of BTM through the nursery industry and into the environment. It provides your customers with the assurance that your company has successfully implemented practices to ensure host plants shipped by your facility are free of BTM. A facility with an approved BTM Pest Module must have systems in place to: establish and maintain pest freedom, verify pest freedom, and maintain product identity and phytosanitary security of any shipment.

Protecting landscapes and nursery sectors across Canada is a priority for nursery growers, and the Clean Plants certification program is designed to facilitate safe trade of plants across the country even when there are no regulations to prevent plant movement. Plants shipped under the Clean Plants program (or any component of the program) should be free of all regulated pests and pests of concern, not just pests identified in pest modules. Facilities that find regulated or quarantine pests have an obligation to notify CFIA and take appropriate actions to prevent pest spread (e.g., cessation of shipments, treatment protocols, etc.). Opportunities to use the Clean Plants certification program as a platform for facilitating exports is under consideration, and the BTM Pest Module requirements reflect not only what serves to protect the Canadian ornamental horticulture sector, but what may be required for trade with the United States.

**Regulatory Status of BTM**

In Canada, the CFIA has regulated boxwood plants for BTM, and the requirements for domestic shipments outside of the regulated area include an approved BTM pest module and a Domestic Movement Certificate. The United States has regulated the following host plants from Canada for BTM: *Buxus* spp., *Euonymus* spp., and *Ilex* spp. Currently, Canadian facilities may not ship host plants to the USA as per a Federal Order (DA-2021-11, dated May 26, 2021).

*NOTE: As regulatory options evolve, additional requirements may be requested by CNCI. Facilities using this Pest Module may be subject to changing requirements.*

The BTM Certification Standard includes details on how the program is administered by CNCI. The appendices and ‘Pest Module Companion Document’ provide guidance and templates for meeting the requirements of CFIA’s “directive D-22-04.

### List of Appendices

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| **Appendix** | **Content** |
| BTM-Appendix 1 | Pest Module (D-22-04 Annex 1) |
| BTM-Appendix 2 | Pest Module Companion Document |
| BTM-Appendix 3 | Phase-In Guidance Document |
| BTM-Appendix 4 | Phase-In Pest Module Section C Template |
| BTM-Appendix 5 | Best Management Practices |
| BTM-Appendix 6 | Pest Module Evaluation Report |
| BTM-Appendix 7 | Initial Facility Audit Checklist |
| BTM-Appendix 8 | External Audit Checklist |

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### References

ISPM 4. Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas. The Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention. International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. Published 2017. FAO. 2017.

ISPM 10. Requirements for the establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites. The Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention. International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. Published 2016. FAO. 1999.

RSPM 24. Integrated Pest Risk Management Measures for the importation of Plants for Planting into NAPPO Member Countries. The Secretariat of the North American Plant Protection Organization. 2013.

RSPM 28. Authorization of Entities to Perform Phytosanitary Services. The Secretariat of the North American Plant Protection Organization. 2014.

### Endorsements and Amendments

The BTM Certification Standard (version BTMCS-2023-03-A) has been reviewed and endorsed by CNCI effective [DATE Year-Month-Day]. This program is in accordance with the anticipated requirements for the responsible production and trade of BTM hosts within Canada.

Amendments to the BTM Certification Standard will be identified by the updated version number and will include a summary of any changes.

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| --- | --- |
| Version number | Summary of changes |
| Date |
| Signature for CNCI | |

# Application & Participation for Clean Plants Facilities

There are no additional fees for facilities adding a pest module to an existing Clean Plants program. Nurseries wishing to obtain CNCI approval for the BTM Pest Module must follow this procedure:

1. Ensure the facility’s account and program status is in good standing.
2. Review the Box Tree Moth Certification Standard (this document).
3. Fill out the Pest Module – BTM-Appendix 1 (CFIA directive D-22-04 “Annex 1: *Cydalima perspectalis* (box tree moth) pest module”, hereafter referred to as the ‘Pest Module’). The Pest Module includes the measures that will be implemented at the nursery to manage BTM, and how the facility will meet the program requirements.
4. The completed Pest Module is sent to CNCI for review. The Pest Module will be approved when the reviewer is satisfied the requirements of the program are being met.
5. Implement the requirements of the BTM Standard at the applicant nursery.
6. Your next internal audit must include the BTM pest module (BTM-Appendix 8).

Nurseries electing to adopt the BTM Pest Module as part of the Clean Plants program will be considered BTM-Certified when they have successfully completed steps 1 through 5 above.

# Application & Participation for Facilities New to the Clean Plants Program

Facilities may join the Clean Plants program directly or may transition into the Clean Plants program through a ‘phase-in’ approach using a pest-specific module. To apply directly to the Clean Plants program, visit <https://www.cleanplants.org/clean-plants-program.html>. Nurseries wishing to obtain CNCI approval for the Box Tree Moth Pest Module under the Phase-In program must follow this procedure:

1. Review the Box Tree Moth Certification Standard (this document).
2. Apply to CNCI to participate in the Box Tree Moth program by filling out an application form. Application forms can be found online (<https://www.cleanplants.org/how-can-i-apply-.html>, Appendix 1 of the Clean Plants Standard)
3. Pay the applicable fee for membership in the Clean Plants program. The annual fee is the same for all levels of participation in the Clean Plants program (i.e., phased-in or full participation), and is based on total annual sales.
4. Fill out the Pest Module – For Phase-In facilities, the Pest Module includes both the BTM-Appendix 1 (CFIA directive D-22-04 “Annex 1: *Cydalima perspectalis* (box tree moth) pest module”) ***and*** BTM-Appendix 4 (Phase-In manual template). The complete Pest Module (Sections A, B and C) includes the measures that will be implemented at the nursery to manage BTM, and how the facility will meet the program requirements.
5. The completed Pest Module is sent to CNCI for review. The Pest Module will be approved when the reviewer is satisfied the requirements of the program are being met.
6. Implement the requirements of the BTM Standard at the applicant nursery.
7. The nursery must undergo an initial external audit within the first four months after applying for the program to verify the requirements of the BTM program are met at the facility.
8. Your first internal audit must utilize BTM-Appendix 8 (External Audit Checklist).
9. The nursery will initiate its participation in the full Clean Plants program within one year of the BTM Pest Module approval. This will include developing the Clean Plants Nursery Manual for their facility, and implementing the activities needed to meet the full Clean Plants program requirements (including all relevant pest modules for the facility) within two years.
10. The nursery shall undergo a full external audit of the full Clean Plants program (<https://www.cleanplants.org>) within 24 months of their initial application for the BTM Phase-In program.

Nurseries electing to adopt the BTM Pest Module as part of the BTM Phase-In Clean Plants program will be considered BTM-Certified when they have successfully completed steps 1 through 7 above. Failure to meet the above deadlines and requirements will result in delays in the certification status for the facility.

To ship plants as ‘certified’ under the Clean Plants Phase-In process, you must:

1. have an approved pest module (Sections A, B and C), verified by CNCI after the Pest Module Evaluation Report has been completed, **AND**
2. have successfully completed the external Initial Facility Audit, **AND**
3. have at least one prior season/year of scouting and trapping data, **OR**
4. have at least 30d residence time at the facility after a) and b) are completed, following the activities described in the pest module.

Contact CFIA for their requirements for moving BTM host plants out of the regulated area.

*NOTE: As CFIA oversight options evolve, additional requirements may be requested. All facilities participating in the BTM program may be subject to changing requirements.*