

Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer Import Conditions Explanatory Guide

Control notice details

This explanatory guide is in reference to Gazette: G8. 17 April 2025.

This guide is a summary only. All activities in relation the summary should be guided by the control notice, available online¹.

What is a control notice?

For the control of a declared pest, a control notice may restrict the introduction of specified plant or plant-related material into the Territory.

A control notice may also impose requirements or conditions for the movements and introduction of specified plant or plant-related material.

Why is a control notice in place?

Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) is a significant pest with over 400 host species. It is currently under an eradication program in Western Australia (WA).

Entry and establishment of PSHB would have significant impact on forestry, native ecosystems, urban amenity trees and fruit and vegetable industries within the Territory.

A control notice has been put in place to prevent the introduction of PSHB into the Territory.

What does this control notice mean?

This control notice puts restrictions on the movement of PSHB carriers into the entire Northern Territory from any Australian State or Territory that has had a detection of PSHB.

PSHB carriers include:

- Living host plants – as listed on the WA Quarantine website²
- Timber
- Used machinery and equipment

All carriers must be certified with a government plant health certificate or assurance certificate prior to consignment to the Territory.

¹ <https://nt.gov.au/about-government/gazettes>

² https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/sites/gateway/files/PSHB-Global-Host-List_3.pdf

Polyphagous shot-hole borer carrier movement guide

To import **Living host plants**, they must be:

- Inspected, as a rate of 2% of the consignment or 600 units (whichever is greater); and
- Consigned within 7 days of inspection, or treated with bifenthrin at 4 weekly intervals after inspection prior to consignment; and
- Accompanied by a plant health certificate or interstate assurance certificate

To import **Timber**, or consignments in which timber is a part of, they must be:

- Heat treated, with a minimum core temperature of 56°C for 30minutes, measured with 5 minute temperature verification intervals; or
- Treated with methyl bromide fumigation in accordance with specifications listed on the control notice; and
- Consigned within 7 days of heat treatment or methyl bromide fumigation; and
- Accompanied by a plant health certificate or interstate assurance certificate.

To import **Machinery and used agricultural equipment** it must be:

- In accordance with Condition 12 of the NT Plant Health Manual³, meaning it must be washed thoroughly with high pressure water and visibly free of all soil and plant material. Machinery must also be disinfected with minimum 1% available chlorine-based solution.
- Accompanied by a permit for introduction. Contact NT Plant Biosecurity to apply for a permit via the email below.

Further information

To request further information please contact NT Plant Biosecurity via email plantbiosecurity@nt.gov.au.

Up-to-date information on the PSHB eradication program can be found online on the WA Quarantine website⁴.

It is an offence under the NT *Plant Health Act 2008* to import the specified carries not in accordance with the control notice. Failure to comply with the notice may result in a court imposed penalty.

³ https://industry.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/396587/plant-health-manual.pdf

⁴ <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/borer>