

EUROPEAN CORN BORER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM INFORMATION



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EUROPEAN CORN BORER (ECB) QUARANTINE

European Corn Borer (*Ostrinia nubilalis*) is a destructive pest of many plants and crops. Several states have ECB quarantines in effect to help prevent the spread of this insect to their state. It can be found in pieces of stalks, cobs, and stems of ½ inch or larger in diameter. In order to exclude the borer, all corn, sorghum, broom corn, and sudangrass grains shipped to states with a ECB quarantine must be scalped (screened) over a ½ inch screen (either round or square holed). The screen must allow grain to pass through, but still screen out plant debris of ½ inch or larger in diameter.

NEBRASKA'S ECB CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

To help facilitate the shipment of quarantined products, annual licenses for certification of screening facilities are issued by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA). Inspection of the screening facilities must be conducted on a regular basis by the elevator. The most recent inspection date shall be reported at the time of license renewal. New facilities or new screening equipment will need to have an inspection done by a NDA inspector to verify quarantine compliance before the license is issued. Each shipment of regulated commodities to quarantined areas must also be accompanied by a completed ECB Certificate. These certificates are completed by the licensed facility, and copies of each Certificate are sent to NDA for review.

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Besides screening the grain products, railroad cars must be inspected for stalks and other debris and cleaned, if necessary, before loading. If screening is done before loading and the clean grain is stored in a bin, that bin must be inspected to make sure it is free of debris. Fumigation may be substituted for screening, but quarantine states will only accept Methyl Bromide fumigation. Rejections of shipments may occur, if the load is found to have debris of ½ inch or larger, or if any live ECB are detected. After rejection, depending on the receiving state's requirements, the load will either be fumigated, rolled, or screened at the shipper's expense. NDA will inspect the elevator and screening equipment if rejections occur. Flagrant violation of the quarantine may result in a hearing and/or certificate revocation.

ECB CERTIFICATES

The following areas have a ECB quarantine in effect and require shipment certification: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Texas**, Utah, Washington, and the Canadian province of British Columbia. Licensed facilities can order ECB Certificates for their shipments from NDA.

Texas**

ECB has been found in the following counties in Texas: Bailey, Carson, Castro, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Floyd, Gray, Hale, Hansford, Hartley, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltrie, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, and Swisher. ECB Certificates are not required for shipments into these infested counties. Unfumigated and unscreened grain may be shipped through the ECB free areas of Texas, if it is destined to a foreign port through a port elevator operating under the authority of the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS). The ECB Certificate must accompany each of these shipments stating that the grain is for export only, must not be diverted to any other Texas point, and that a change of destination to other Texas points is not authorized except that grain may be diverted to another qualified port elevator.

Please contact NDA, if you have any questions or need more information regarding this program.