

## Small Lots of Seed Permit (compulsory to U.S. customers only)

We hope that we have accurately and understandably compiled all relevant information given below. However if any inquiry, doubt or uncertainty should arise, please do not hesitate to contact us - we want you to receive your order as soon as possible and to keep the bureaucratic workload to a minimum for you !

All flower and plant seed shipments to the U.S. **must enter the U.S. with a special import permit** applied for by the customer and issued by U.S. authorities. In order to receive seeds in small quantities from outside the U.S., the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (**APHIS**) offers a "**Small Lots of Seed Permit**". With this permit a separate phytosanitary certificate for seed orders from abroad is not required. This makes it easier, less expensive and safer for you to legally import plant seeds to the U.S.

The "Small Lots of Seed Permit" is **free of charge** and you may make several copies for subsequent orders. Each copy of the permit is good for ordering **up to 50 packages** of different species. From each species you may order **either 50 seeds or 10g of seeds**, whatever is more. You find the exact amount of seeds per package on our website. We recommend you to order only one package per species in our shop. If you would like to order more than 1 package from a single species, please contact us. We will calculate the total weight for your required amount of seeds from a certain species and let you know if it can be shipped in a single consignment.

### IMPORTANT

After you have received the **permit** and a separate sheet with several **yellow/green address labels** from APHIS, please **send us for each 50 seed packages** in your order:

- **1 copy of the entire permit (ALL 3 pages)**
- AND
- **1 yellow/green address label.**

Our postal address is:

**www.rareplants.de**  
**Mr. Bjoern Malkmus-Hussein**  
**Calle Goya, 1**  
**E-38400 Puerto de la Cruz (S/C de Tenerife)**  
**SPAIN**

Alternatively, and to speed up things for you and to save shipping costs, you may want to **scan** the entire permit (ALL 3 pages) and 1 yellow/green address label and send the **scans as attachments** to us:

**info@rareplants.de**

On receipt of your permit copy and one yellow/green address label we will dispatch your order via registered/certified air mail to the appropriate APHIS office in the U.S., which is stated on the yellow/green address label.

After completion of inspection your order will be released from APHIS and forwarded to your home address via USPS. The entire procedure will take some 2 to 4 weeks on average.

You may choose between two different methods for an application of a "Small Lots of Seed Permit":

- A) Printable PDF-form** which has to be sent by post to APHIS
- or
- B) ePermit** which can be sent in electronically to APHIS

Simply chose whatever method you prefer! Several U.S. customers told us that the old (!) method (i.e. a printable PDF-form) was easier for them.



## SECTION 2

Only the first two lines in this part have to be completed. An **example** how to fill out section 2 is given below.

**Example:**

<b>2. Plants or Plant Products to be Imported:</b>			
<b>Country of Origin</b> (If Canada, give Province, if Mexico, give State)	<b>Scientific Names of Plants or Plant Products</b>	<b>Plant Parts</b> (seeds, cuttings, rhizomes, plants, bulbs, fruits, etc.)	<b>U.S. Port or Ports of Arrival</b>
<b>"SMALL LOTS OF SEED PROGRAM"</b>			
<i>Germany</i>	<i>"eligible taxa"</i>	<i>seeds</i>	<i>[State the Port of Arrival or simply state "N/A" if not known.]</i>
<i>(leave blank)</i>	<i>(leave blank)</i>	<i>(leave blank)</i>	<i>(leave blank)</i>

In the **first line** write only **"SMALL LOTS OF SEED PROGRAM"** in the first column.

In the **second line** state **"Germany"** in the first column, **"eligible taxa"** in the second column, and **"seeds"** in the third column.

By keeping these information rather general your permit will be issued faster and it may be used for multiple subsequent orders including seeds from various plant species from the country of origin (which is Germany in our case). If port of entry inspectors find prohibited seeds in your shipment, they will remove the ineligible kinds and forward the remaining, allowed items to you.

In column four of line two you should always write **"N/A"** (for "not available") as you usually will not know in advance which will be the port of entry to the US for your order shipped from Germany. Check later your permit when you receive it for the approved port of entry in the U.S.

**Leave blank** all other lines in section 2.

## SECTION 3

Please always check **"Small lots of seed"** as intended use.

## SECTION 4

Check **"Mail or Express carrier"** as means of transportation.

Finally print out the application form, do not forget to sign the form in section 5, print your name clearly in section 6, and last but not least fill out the date in section 7.

Then post the completed form to APHIS. Their postal address is shown in the upper right hand on the form:

**USDA-APHIS-PPQ**  
**Permit Unit**  
**4700 River Road, Unit 133**  
**Riverdale, MD 20737-1236**

**1-877-770-5990; FAX: (301) 734-5786**

After sending the application by post or by fax it may take some 2 to 4 weeks (depending on how fast APHIS officers may work) until you receive the permit and several yellow/green address labels to your home address.



## B) ePermit

In order to use this method, you first have to register for an **eAuthentication User ID** and **Password** at **Level 2 Access** (not Level 1 Access !) on this page:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/permits/eauth\\_epermits.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/permits/eauth_epermits.shtml)

After a successful registration for an eAuthentication please go to this page:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/permits/ppq\\_epermits.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/permits/ppq_epermits.shtml)

On the above page select this link: [PPQ 587](#): Application for permit to import plants or plant products:

The screenshot shows the USDA APHIS website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About APHIS, Newsroom, Career Opportunities, Help, and Contact Us. Below this is a search bar and a sidebar with navigation options like 'Browse by Audience' and 'Browse by Subject'. The main content area is titled 'Permits' and features a section for 'PPQ Permits'. Under this section, there is a list of permit types, with 'PPQ 587: Application for permit to import plants or plant products' circled in red. To the right of the main content, there is a 'Related Topics' sidebar with links to 'Learn about ePermits', 'Register for ePermits', 'Login to ePermits', 'Contact ePermits Technical Support', and 'Learn about eAuthentication'.

Now **login** with your **eAuthentication User ID** and **Password**. Provide the required data which are basically **the same as shown above** under "A) Printable Form". Finally send the application electronically.

After sending the application it may take some 2 to 4 weeks (depending on how fast APHIS officers may work) until you receive the permit and several yellow/green address labels to your home address.



## List of prohibited species

At present we offer **seeds** from the following species, which are prohibited for importation to the U.S. by federal law. Please do not order these from us:

Genus Species	Reason for prohibition
Asphodelus fistulosus	7 CFR §360.200 (c) <sup>1)</sup> [Regarded as a noxious weed species in the U.S.]
Berberis amurensis	7 CFR §319.37-2 (a) [Possible infestation with Puccinia graminis Pers. (Black stem rust)]

<sup>1)</sup> The full list of noxious weed species is downloadable from:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/weeds/downloads/weedlist2006.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/weeds/downloads/weedlist2006.pdf)

Please note that we do not hold responsibility for completeness and accuracy of the above list.

If APHIS inspectors shall declare other species as being prohibited and hence remove them from your consignment, please let us know ! We will give you a full refund for any confiscated item without any quarrel !!

We checked all our species for any possible restriction, e.g. if a species is listed as prohibited under article 7 CFR 319.37-2, or being known as a parasitic or noxious weed species. If a certain species is prohibited and thus cannot be imported to the U.S., we added a comment in the description of that species on our website. However please note, that we cannot guarantee that all prohibited species have been marked in our web shop. If plants' inspectors at APHIS will find prohibited seeds in the consignment, they will remove the ineligible kinds and forward to you the remaining, allowed items.

We do not sell any genetically modified species and none of our seeds are pelleted, coated nor treated with any fungicide or insecticide in order to comply with the terms set by APHIS.

## More detailed information on the Small Lots of Seed Permit

If you would like to get more information on this special APHIS program, please go to:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/plants/plant\\_imports/smalllots\\_seed.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_imports/smalllots_seed.shtml)

*Information supplied as of 15 September 2011.*

