

Christmas Trees and Pine Shoot Beetle

To certify Christmas trees for export (either interstate or internationally) the following guidelines must be met.

Information to obtain from grower:

- 1) Fields where the trees are located
- 2) Destination of Christmas trees
- 3) What kinds of trees are going to be shipped?
- 4) Are the trees painted?
- 5) Approximate number of trees to be cut and shipped

Schedule an inspection:

- 1) The grower/shipper must notify PPQ officer or State cooperator at least 48 hours in advance of the movement.
- 2) If the Christmas trees have been cut, require the grower/shipper to provide a person during inspection to stand the trees up as they are selected for inspection.

Select the number of pine trees to inspect:

Using the tables below select the number of pine trees that will be inspected randomly using the total number of pine trees on the premises and whether the trees are painted or unpainted.

Number of painted, pine Christmas trees to inspect

If the total number of painted, pine Christmas trees is:	Then randomly select the following number of trees for inspection:
1-72	All
73-100	73
101-200	96
201-300	106
301-400	111
401-500	115
501-600	117
601-700	119
701-800	120
801-900	121
901-1000	122
1001-2000	126
2001-3000	127
3001-5000	128
5001-10,000	129
10,001 or more	130

Number of unpainted, pine Christmas trees to inspect

If the total number of unpainted , pine Christmas trees is:	Then randomly select the following number of trees for inspection:
1-57	All
58-100	58
101-200	69
201-300	75
301-400	77
401-500	79
501-600	80
601-700	81
701-1000	82
1001-3000	84
3001-10,000	85
10,001 or more	86

NOTE: If a shipment of trees is a mixture of painted and unpainted ones use the table for painted trees.

Inspect the Pine Trees:

1) Randomly select each pine tree as you conduct the inspection.

NOTE: If the shipment or premises is a mixture of Scotch and white focus your inspection on the Scotch.

- 2) While concentrating on the upper part of the tree, look all around it for symptoms and evidence of pest infestation.
 - a. Discolored shoots, needles, or tips of shoots
 - b. Entrance holes in the sides of shoots and cream-colored pitch tubes
 - c. Drooping or broken shoots attached or fallen
 - d. Shoots which pop off the tree when briskly brushed

- 3) If you see a symptom of pest infestation, dissect the shoot to verify the evidence. Evidence would include presence of a clean gallery and/or presence of the pine shoot beetle.
 - a. Cut off the branch with the damaged shoot.
 - b. Rotate the shoot, looking for entrance holes.
 - c. Horizontally slice the branch open with a knife.
 - d. Look for galleries and the pine shoot beetle.

If there is evidence of infestation in any one inspected tree, do not certify.