

FOOD PRODUCTION AND INSPECTION BRANCH ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH DIRECTORATE PLANT PROTECTION DIVISION DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DE LA PRODUCTION ET L'INSPECTION DES ALIMENTS DIRECTION DE L'HYGIENE VÉTÉRINAIRE ET DE LA PROTECTION DES VÉGÉTAUX DIVISION DE LA PROTECTION DES VÉGÉTAUX	94/07/12	D-94-18 (MODIFIED)
	POLICY SECTION SECTION DES POLITIQUES	
Subject/Objet		
IMPORTATION OF <u>RIBES</u> SPP. (CURRANTS AND GOOSEBERRIES)		

Our file/Notre référence
 3525-10N1 3525-10N1/FG3
 3525-10N1/FN2 3525-10N1/FU4
 3525-10N1/FB4 3525-10N1/FF4

(THIS DIRECTIVE REPLACES D-94-18 DATED 94/06/07)

MEMORANDUM TO: TRADE

We wish to advise that, effective July 1, 1994, the importation of all propagative material of Ribes spp. (currants and gooseberries) from Eur will be prohibited. These include both fruit-producing and ornamental varieties.

Commercial importation of propagative material from other off-continent sources will require prior approval from this Division. Importation of small quantities for research and breeding purposes will require special permits, with quarantine conditions stipulated by this Division.

This prohibition is necessary to prevent the introduction into Canada of a serious disease of black currants, the Black Currant Reversion disease. This disease, which can cause a complete loss of the crop, does not exist in Canada. In addition, if it is introduced into Canada, exports to the U.S., our principal market for propagative material of Ribes spp, would be put in jeopardy. The U.S. already prohibits importation of propagative material from Europe. The disease has become an enormous problem in Germany and Poland, traditionally the largest producers in Europe. The Plant Protection Division would

consider permitting the resumption of import from any European source if there are satisfactory measures implemented by the source country to reduce this pest risk to Canada. Any discussion for the possible resumption of import should be initiated by the plant protection authority of the exporting country.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation to keep this serious disease of currants out of Canada.

W.T. Bradnock
Director

Distribution List

Importers
Canadian Horticultural Council,
Canadian Nursery Trade Association,
Len Crawford, USDA/PPQ
PHRA Unit
Regional Program Managers - Plant Health
Regional Program Officers - Plant Health