

Program Notice

FGIS-PN-23-07

October 1, 2023

**RESCINDING PROGRAM DIRECTIVE 9180.86 INSPECTION OF EXPORT SOYBEAN
AND WHEAT LOTS FOR CANADA THISTLE DATED FEBRUARY 27, 2019**

Contents

1.	PURPOSE.....	1
2.	BACKGROUND.....	1
3.	EFFECTIVE DATE	1
4.	POLICY	1
5.	PROCEDURE.....	1
6.	QUESTIONS	1

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

1. **PURPOSE**

This notice announces that Program Directive 9180.86 Inspection of Export Soybean and Wheat Lots for Canada Thistle dated February 27, 2019, is rescinded, and will be removed from the AMS-FGIS public website. FGIS is issuing this Program Notice to alert inspectors and industry about the change in Vietnam's entry requirement.

2. **BACKGROUND**

Program Directive 9180.86 Inspection of Export Soybean and Wheat Lots for Canada Thistle dated February 27, 2019, established instructions for examining export soybean and wheat shipments to Vietnam for Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) seeds to comply with regulations by Vietnam prohibiting the entry of Canada thistle seeds. Effective September 29, 2023, Vietnam will no longer be regulating Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*). This species will be removed from Vietnam's quarantine pest list.

3. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This program notice is effective October 1, 2023.

4. **POLICY**

Program Directive 9180.86 Inspection of Export Soybean and Wheat Lots for Canada Thistle dated February 27, 2019, is rescinded effective October 1, 2023. The directive will be removed from the FGIS public website as soon as practicable after that date.

5. **PROCEDURE**

Per APHIS guidance, the last day to look for Canada thistle is September 30, 2023. Beginning October 1, 2023, official personnel will no longer look for Canada thistle in lots of soybeans and wheat bound for Vietnam unless the load order requires such inspection. Accordingly, there is no need for certification of freedom from Canada thistle on or after that date. A phytosanitary certificate will still be required for export of wheat and soybeans to Vietnam, but it will no longer require the Canada thistle statement on the FGIS 921-2.

6. **QUESTIONS**

Direct any question regarding this procedure to the local field office or to Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch (PPMAB) at fjispoliciesproceduresmarketanalysisbranch@usda.gov.