Selling plants? Protect your business

Don’t buy, sell or move plants, flowers or foliage that put NSW at risk

Plants that can harm the environment, economy and communities of NSW are called ‘priority weeds’. The sale and movement of priority weeds is restricted under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015. Restrictions apply to all parts of the plant, and to cultivars and hybrids.

**State priority weeds must not be imported into NSW or sold anywhere in NSW.**
If you buy or sell state priority weeds in NSW you are committing an offence under the Biosecurity Act 2015. The plants will be seized and destroyed and you could be fined.

**Regional priority weeds should not be bought, sold or moved in certain regions of NSW.**
You have a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the biosecurity risks from regional priority weeds, as far as is reasonably practicable. If you buy, sell or move regional priority weeds without preventing, eliminating or minimising the risks you may be committing an offence under the Biosecurity Act 2015. You could be fined and the plants could be seized and destroyed.

Contact your local council weeds officer or the NSW Biosecurity Helpline on 1800 680 244 for information and advice.
Authorised officers from councils inspect places that sell plants, cut flowers and foliage

Don’t risk it. Check NSW WeedWise

To find out whether restrictions apply to the plants you buy or sell, go to NSW WeedWise at weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au

To see a list of state priority weeds that must not be sold anywhere in NSW:

1. Click advanced search
2. Choose Weed category > Must not be sold in NSW
3. Click Search

To see a list of regional priority weeds that should not be sold in your region:

1. Click advanced search
2. Choose Weed category > Should not be sold in parts of NSW
3. Choose Region > select your Local Land Services region
   (to find out which Local Land Services region you are in visit www.lls.nsw.gov.au/our-regions/whats-my-region)
4. Click Search

If you are found buying or selling regional priority weeds, you will be given the chance to cease the activity, or given the option to show:
- how you’ve minimised the risk created by the plant
- that you’ve communicated to your customers that the plant creates a risk to the environment, economy and community
- that the plant is not capable of regenerating or reproducing (by providing a sample for testing)

If you can’t show these things, you may be given a biosecurity direction that tells you what you must do to minimise the risks created by the plant. If you don’t comply with the biosecurity direction an authorised officer could seize the plants and give you an on-the-spot penalty infringement notice of $1000.

Further legal proceedings could occur.

Your local council weeds officer can provide information and advice, or you can contact the NSW Biosecurity Helpline on 1800 680 244.