

October 27, 2016

**Quarantine on shipments of 'Ōhi'a and soil from the Island of Hawai'i**

Dear Valued Customer,

As reported in recent news, the disease known as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (*ROD*) is killing 'Ōhi'a trees and has affected over 50,000 acres on the Island of Hawai'i. So far the disease has not been found on other islands. **As part of a critical effort to control the spread of this disease and in cooperation with the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA), Young Brothers will continue to strictly enforce the rules summarized below.**

With respect to shipping soil from Hawai'i Island, the HDOA has passed these rules:

- A shipper must obtain an interisland permit PQ-7 from the HDOA;
- Soil is subject to testing for ROD or the shipper must be an active participant in HDOA's Plant Quarantine Branch (*PQB*) compliance program, which involves periodic testing and inspections;
- All shipments must be accompanied by a certificate of inspection from HDOA, an interisland permit and an invoice or packing list;
- Shipments must be clearly labeled as "Soil from Hawaii Island" or "Soil Samples from Hawaii Island for Research and Analysis," and "This Parcel May Be Opened and Delayed for Agricultural Inspection;" and
- Shipments are subject to post-arrival inspection by a PQB inspector.

Similarly, HDOA has declared a quarantine that prohibits transportation, without an HDOA permit, of all 'Ōhi'a plants, wood, or other 'Ōhi'a plant parts from the Island of Hawai'i.

Lastly, shippers of vehicles, machinery, and equipment from all islands must ensure that the interior and exterior of such cargo is entirely clean and free of any dirt, mud, seeds, or plants or plant parts, prior to dropping off at a Young Brothers facility. In addition, HDOA recommends that if a vehicle has been in an area with ROD and/or has been off-road on the Island of Hawai'i, the tires and undercarriage of the vehicles be washed with detergent before interisland shipment.

Young Brothers takes our environmental stewardship responsibility seriously, and we will continue to work with public and private entities to prevent the transport of invasive species between islands.

As part of controlling these and other pests, suspected new infestations should be reported immediately to HDOA by calling (808) 643-PEST or, in Hilo, (808) 989-9289. For more information about this disease, please see HDOA's website at <http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/blog/main/reportingohiawilt/>.

We appreciate your participation and cooperation to protect the environment in all of our communities.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Roy Catalani*

Roy Catalani

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