

# Program Notice

FGIS-PN-23-07

October 1, 2023

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

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## **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Program Directive 9180.86 Inspection of Export Soybean and Wheat Lots for Canada Thistle dated February 27, 2019, is rescinded, and will be removed from the AMS-FGIS public website.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Program Directive 9180.86 Inspection of Export Soybean and Wheat Lots for Canada Thistle dated February 27, 2019, is rescinded effective October 1, 2023.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 [fgispoliciesproceduresmarketanalysisbranch@usda.gov](mailto:fgispoliciesproceduresmarketanalysisbranch@usda.gov).