



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection & Quarantine
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD 20737

**Permit to Move LIVE PLANT PESTS, BIOCONTROL ORGANISMS,
FEDERAL NOXIOUS WEEDS, SOIL, AND BEES**

Interstate (Movement between states)
Regulated by 7 CFR 330, CFR 360, and CFR 322

APPLICATION NUMBER:	A-00312515	DATE ISSUED:	10/31/2023
PERMIT NUMBER:	526-23-304-24137	EFFECTIVE:	10/31/2023 – 10/31/2026
APPLICANT NAME:	Ben Willis	PERMITTEE NAME:	Ben Willis
ORGANIZATION:	SePRO Corporation	ORGANIZATION:	SePRO Corporation
ADDRESS:	16013 Watson Seed Farm Rd., Whitakers, North Carolina, 27891	ADDRESS:	16013 Watson Seed Farm Rd., Whitakers, North Carolina, 27891
MAILING ADDRESS:	16013 Watson Seed Farm Rd., Whitakers, North Carolina, 27891	MAILING ADDRESS:	16013 Watson Seed Farm Rd., Whitakers, North Carolina, 27891
PHONE:	12523017891	PHONE:	12523017891
ALTERNATE PHONE:		ALTERNATE PHONE:	
EMAIL:	ben.willis@sepro.com	EMAIL:	ben.willis@sepro.com
ALTERNATE EMAIL:		ALTERNATE EMAIL:	
APPROVED FOR HAND CARRY:	Not Authorized		
PORTS OF ARRIVAL/PLANT INSPECTION STATIONS:			

Destination Location

Name: SePRO Corporation
Facility Number: PPQ-NC-317599
Type: Greenhouse;Field or Open Environment;Growth Chamber;Growth Room
Room Number: [Administration Building, Field Laboratory, Greenhouses, Shadehouse, and research ponds]

Primary Contact
Name: Ben Willis
Email: ben.willis@sepro.com
Alternate Email:
Phone: 12523017891
Alternate Phone:

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Address: 16013 Watson Seed Farm Road
City, State, ZIP Code: Whitakers, NC 27804
County: Nash
Latitude and Longitude: 36.1228792,
Growing Location Description:

Under the conditions specified, this permit authorizes the following:

Regulated Article	Life Stage(s)	Intended Use	Shipment Origins	Originally Collected	Culture Designation
Hydrilla verticillata	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Hygrophila polysperma	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Ipomoea aquatica	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Lagarosiphon major	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Limnophila sessiliflora	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	

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Lygodium microphyllum	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Sagittaria sagittifolia	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Salvinia auriculata	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Salvinia biloba	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Salvinia herzogii	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Salvinia molesta	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Unlisted: Salvinia minima	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	
Unlisted: Stratiotes aloides	All	Research - Greenhouse (Growth Chamber and Laboratory Included)	, Contiguous United States	Contiguous U.S.	

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO INSPECTORS

See permit conditions below

PERMIT GUIDANCE

1) Importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of the listed regulated organisms that have been genetically engineered may require a different permit issued under regulations at 7 CFR part 340. Any unauthorized importation, interstate movement, or environmental release (including accidental release) of a regulated GE organism would be a violation of those regulations. Before moving genetically engineered organisms, contact APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) at: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/biotechnology>.

If BRS does not require a permit, contact the Pest, Pathogen, and Biocontrol permit unit for further guidance at: pest.permits@usda.gov

2) If an animal pathogen is identified in your shipment, to ensure appropriate safeguarding, please refer to http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/animal_import/animal_imports_anproducts.shtm

3) If a human pathogen is identified, please refer to the CDC Etiologic Agent Import Permit Program at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/eaipp/>

4) This permit DOES NOT fulfill the requirements of other federal or state regulatory authorities. Please contact the appropriate agencies, such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the APHIS Veterinary Services unit, the APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services, or your State's Department of Agriculture to ensure proper permitting.

5) If you are considering renewal of this permit, an application should be submitted at least 90 days prior to the expiration date of this permit to ensure continued coverage. Permits requiring containment facilities may take a longer period of time to process.

PERMIT CONDITIONS

USDA-APHIS issues this permit to authorize the interstate movement of the listed regulated materials for research, within the APHIS approved containment facility associated with the permit.

1. The regulated material must be visually free of diseases, insects, or other plant pests and/or contaminants. If the shipment is for seed, pesticides must not be applied to the regulated material before shipping.

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2. Field-collected samples of regulated material must be "bare root" or washed free of soil.
3. All packages for transport must minimally consist of both inner/primary and outer/secondary packages securely sealed so that both are effective barriers to escape or unauthorized dissemination of the listed materials/organisms. The inner/primary package(s) will contain all regulated materials/organisms and must be cushioned and sealed in such a way that it remains sealed during shock, impact, and pressure changes that may occur. The outer/secondary shipping container must be rigid and strong enough to withstand typical shipping conditions (dropping, stacking, impact from other freight, etc.) without opening.
4. **DEVITALIZATION AND WASTE DISPOSAL** All regulated materials, including un-used and leftover material, and all packaging directly in contact with the regulated material must be devitalized/treated via one or more of the following methods: 1) autoclaved (see protocol below), 2) disposed of off-site by a facility holding a valid PPQ compliance agreement (contaminated waste must be stored in sealed containers prior to pick up by this company), or 3) Incineration. Treated waste will be double bagged prior to disposal. Other sterilization methods are only allowed with prior written agreement from the USDA/APHIS PPQ Pest Permit Staff. If using an autoclave the following protocol must be used: a. Waste must be autoclaved at 121 Celsius (250 Fahrenheit) for a minimum of 30 minutes at 15 psi. b. Autoclave tape or other indicators must be placed on each load prior to treatment. The autoclave tape or other indicator on each container must be checked to verify color change before disposal. c. The autoclave must be calibrated according to the manufacturer's instructions annually and a commercially available biological indicator kit that uses bacterial spores of *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* that are rendered unviable at 121 Celsius (250 Fahrenheit) must be used every three months. OR The autoclave must be calibrated according to the manufacturer's instructions every two years and a commercially available biological indicator kit that uses bacterial spores of *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* that are rendered unviable at 121 Celsius (250 Fahrenheit) must be used every two weeks. d. A written record of the calibration and the biological indicator tests must be maintained. You must follow the manufacturer's instructions for the *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* and if any growth is observed, you must have the autoclave serviced and retested before it is used again for the regulated articles/organisms listed on this permit.
5. All persons working with the listed regulated materials/organisms must be informed of these permit conditions. Anyone working with these materials/organisms must agree to adhere to and sign/initial these conditions before beginning work. These signed conditions do not need to be submitted to USDA/APHIS but must be readily accessible and made available to Federal and State regulators upon request. Note: these conditions may be copied and stored electronically for electronic signature and initialing provided that the permit number, authorized materials/organisms and life stages, release locations if applicable, and authorization statement all appear on the document with the permit number. Signing these conditions only indicates that the person working under this permit has read them; the permit holder is the sole responsible party under this permit.
6. All persons working with the regulated material/organism must be trained on the importance of APHIS approved containment practices as described in the permit conditions and approved SOPs associated with the APHIS approved containment facility listed above.
7. Modifications to the containment facility or any changes that affect the containment of the regulated materials/organisms must be approved by APHIS prior to making changes. Please contact the Pest

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Permit Staff (email: pest.permits@usda.gov; phone: 866-524-5421; address: 4700 River Rd., Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737; Fax: 301-734-8700).

8. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) must be filed with, and approved by, the APHIS PPQ Pest Permit Staff at: email: pest.permits@usda.gov; phone: 866-524-5421; fax: 301-734-8700; address: 4700 River Road, Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737. All contact information must be kept current and the SOPs must be dated. If requirements in the permit conditions are more restrictive than the SOPs, permit conditions take precedence. APHIS PPQ must approve any changes to the SOPs before implementation. A list of all persons with access to the containment facility must be maintained and available upon request by Federal or State Regulatory Officials. All persons working with the regulated material/organism(s) must be trained on, and implement the permit conditions, and all APHIS approved SOPs governing the facility listed above.
9. There is to be no further movement or distribution of the listed regulated materials/organisms within the United States and its territories unless the recipient holds, or is named as a responsible party on a valid PPQ526 permit for receipt of such materials/organisms.
- 10 All specimens/samples of the listed regulated material and all research areas where work with the regulated material is undertaken must display a sign that reads: "Regulated material - to be used only in accordance with current USDA Noxious Weed Permit" or similar language.
- 11 Research samples must be maintained within the APHIS approved facility identified above. All stored samples must be kept in a locked area with access restricted to authorized personnel.
- 12
 - This permit is issued by the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). It conveys APHIS regulations and requirements for the material(s) listed on this permit. It does not reduce or eliminate your legal duty and responsibility to comply with all other applicable Federal and State regulatory requirements.
 - You must be an individual at least 18 years old, or legal entity such as partnership, corporation, association, or joint venture.
 - You are legally responsible for complying with all permit requirements and permit conditions.
 - If you violate any applicable laws associated with this permit, you may face substantial civil or criminal penalties. We may cancel all current permits and deny future permit applications.
 - Without prior notice and during reasonable hours, authorized Federal and State Regulators must be allowed to inspect the conditions associated with the regulated materials/organisms authorized under this permit.
- 13 The permit holder must:
 - maintain a valid PPQ526 permit so long as the regulated materials/organisms are alive or viable,
 - not assign or transfer this permit to other persons without APHIS PPQ authorization,
 - maintain an official permanent work assignment, residence, or affiliation at the address on this permit,
 - notify the Pest Permit Staff as soon as possible of any change in the permit holder's work assignment, residence, or affiliation,
 - notify the Pest Permit Staff of the receipt of unauthorized and/or misdirected shipments of regulated materials/organisms,

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- adequately mitigate environmental impacts resulting from unauthorized release of regulated materials/organisms and notify the Pest Permit staff immediately if one occurs,
- notify the Pest Permit Staff if the facility is damaged/destroyed or if you wish to decommission the facility,
- destroy all regulated materials/organisms prior to departure from the organization unless other arrangements are confirmed by the Pest Permit Staff.

Notifications to the Pest Permit Staff must be made via 866-524-5421 or pest.permits@usda.gov within one business day of the event triggering a notification.

END OF PERMIT CONDITIONS

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North Carolina Department of Agriculture
& Consumer Services
Plant Industry - Plant Protection Section

1060 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 26799-1060

**Application and Scientific Permit to Move
Plant Pests or Regulated Articles**

Section A - To be Completed by Applicant

1. Name, Title, Address, and E-mail
Ben Willis, Formulation Chemist,
SePRO Research & Technology Campus
Watson Seed Farm Road
Whitakers, NC 27891
ben.willis@sepro.com

2. Type of Pest to be Moved
 Arthropods Noxious Weeds Other (Specify)
 Pathogens Regulated Articles

3. Telephone Number: (252 301 7891)
Fax Number: ()

Scientific name of pests or Regulated article	Pest Classification	Life Stage(s) of Pest	Number of Specimens or Units	Origin	Are Pests Established in N.C.?	Host(s) of the Pest
4. Trapa spp.	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
5. Nymphoides cristata	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
6. Nymphoides peltata	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	

7. Indicate any host materials which may accompany pests (indicate by line no.)

8. Destination
16013 Watson Seed Farm Road, whitakers, Nc 27891

9. Supplier
Applicators and SePRO Personnel

10. No. of shipments
0-6 times a month

11. Arrival date
Tuesday-Friday

12. Method of Shipment and Packaging
Double bagged, overnight, cooler

13. Intended Use (Outline intended research - use attachments if necessary.)

To develop new herbicides and new techniques with existing registered herbicides for control of noxious weeds. Herbicide tolerance and resistance testing to steward registered aquatic use herbicides for control of noxious weeds.

14. Methods to be Used to Prevent Plant Pest Escape Non- NC established plants will only be grown inside laboratories and greenhouses. Other non-indigenous plants may be grown in controlled experimental ponds. Water used in studies is reused for irrigating noxious weeds.

15. Method of Final Disposition
Autoclaved, bagged, landfilled

16. Signature of Applicant (I hereby certify that the information in this application and all attachments are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.)

Ben Willis

17. Date
10/11/2024

Section B - To be Completed by Plant Protection Section

18. Conditions of Approval
None

19. Status
 Approve Disapprove

20. Signature and Title of NCDA&CS Official
Reg. Weed Spec. *[Signature]*

21. Date
10/11/2024

22. Permit No.
01-1

23. Permit Expiration Date
10/11/2026

24. Pest Category
Weeds

Scientific name of Pests or Regulated article	Pest Classification	Life Stage(s) Of Pest	Number of Specimens Or Units	Origin	Are Pests Established in N.C.?	Host(s) of Plants
<i>Nymphiodes peltata</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	Yes	
<i>Salvinia</i> spp.	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Lagrosiphon</i> spp.	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>	B	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	B	All	Pond and Mesocosm	U.S.	Yes	
<i>Azolla pinnata</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	A	All	Mesocosm and Pond	U.S.	Yes	
<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	Yes	
<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Not listed	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	No	
<i>Lythrum</i> spp.	A	All	Mesocosm	U.S.	Yes	