

Information sheet

Wildlife management

Authorised cultivator - Queensland

Overview

In Queensland, all plants that are native to Australia are 'protected plants' under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (the Act). The Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) administer the Act to ensure that protected plants or plant parts are not illegally removed from the wild or traded.

The harvesting and use of most protected plants (including whole plants, plant parts and seeds) from the wild is regulated by a licensing system. Persons who wish to harvest protected plants from the wild for any purpose are required by law to obtain a licence, permit or authority from DERM or have an exemption under a regulation or conservation plan. A licence or authority may also be required to propagate or sell protected plants.

The various types of licences relating to protected plants will be addressed in a series of information sheets. This information sheet focuses on the approval of persons as authorised cultivators for protected plants.

What is an approval as an authorised cultivator?

The chief executive may approve a corporation or an individual as an authorised cultivator. This allows the authorised person to use (including for wholesale sale) protected plant parts that have been harvested from plants intensively cultivated under controlled conditions. A licence is not needed to retail lawfully obtained plant parts.

Who can apply for approval as an authorised cultivator?

Any Queensland resident or a corporation with suitable premises in Queensland (where the plants are to be propagated) with the necessary experience, land, facilities, equipment and lawfully obtained stock plants or other propagating material may apply for approval as an authorised cultivator. However, the person cannot be a licensee under a commercial wildlife harvesting licence, other than a licensee to harvest stock plants for plants of the same genus that the person intends to cultivate or propagate.

How do I apply for approval as an authorised cultivator?

To apply for approval as an authorised cultivator, you will need to complete an application form. The form can be downloaded from http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/ecoaccess/plants_and_animals/ or obtained by contacting Permit and Licence Management on 1300 130 372 or by email at palm@derm.qld.gov.au.

You can lodge an application at your nearest DERM office in person or mail it to Permit and Licence Management at GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001.

How long will it take to obtain a licence?

Your application will be decided within 40 business days after the application is received if no additional information is required.

If your application requires additional information or consultation, you will be notified within 20 business days after the application is received and requested to provide further information. A further 20 business days is granted for the applicant to provide the requested information.

What will it cost?

There are no fees associated with this authorisation.

How long does the licence last?

A licence can be granted for a period of up to 5 years.

Do I need to use tags?

No. Tags are not required for plant parts.

Definitions

'Intensively cultivated' means a protected plant that has its reproduction and growth intensively manipulated, including by irrigation, weed and disease control, tillage and fertilising.

'Wholesale' means to sell to someone who does not sell to the consumer, e.g. to sell to a retailer.

'Retail' means to sell directly to the consumer.

Further information

For further information, contact Permit and Licence Management on 1300 130 372 or by email at palm@derm.qld.gov.au.

References

Nature Conservation Act 1992

Nature Conservation (Administration) Regulation 2006

Nature Conservation (Protected Plants) Conservation Plan 2000

Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006