

Deputy Director Brian Oakey  
Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
PO Box 790  
Boise, Idaho 83701  
Via Email: [rulesinfo@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV](mailto:rulesinfo@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV)

June 20, 2017

Re: IDAPA 02.06.22 – Ornamental yew plants

Dear Mr. Oakey,

I am a resident of the Highlands neighborhood in Boise. We have lots of wildlife that travel through our neighborhood at all times of the year. I have had deer in my fenced backyard. I am concerned about the ornamental yew plant that has been the cause of many wildlife deaths this winter and winters past. It seems that since we know this plant is so toxic to wildlife, pets, and people that it should be banned from being planted in our state. I know that people say there are many toxic plants but I have not heard of any causing the deaths that this plant has caused. Nurseries are not doing a very good job of educating folks about the dangers of this plant so it is time for the state to step in and ban this plant from Idaho. I have talked to many friends who had no idea that the yew was so toxic. They have pets and small children and were horrified to learn about its toxicity. They immediately removed it from their yards. There are so many other wonderful plants that folks can put in their yards that it would not be a burden to nurseries not to sell this one plant. I know of no plant growers in the state that would be put out of business if this plant could not be sold in Idaho.

Due to this toxicity and the recent and past deaths I would like the ornamental yews to be classified as a noxious weed in the control category. This would empower the county weed supervisors to create a plan to get rid of these plants in Idaho.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Pam Conley  
917 W Highlandview Dr.  
Boise, ID 83702