

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Nursery stock

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Overview

This bill requires the commissioner of agriculture to recommend procedures to increase consumer awareness of the toxicity of certain nursery stock.

Nursery stock is defined in statute as a plant intended for planting or propagation, including, but not limited to, trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, biennials, grafts, cuttings, buds, and all viable parts of these plants. Nursery stock does not include: crops; seeds; vegetable plants; cut flowers; annuals; or Christmas trees (§18H.02, subdivision 20).

Section

1 Consumer education; toxicity of nursery stock.

Subdivision 1. Findings. States the legislature's findings that: retail customers are often unaware of the danger certain plant materials pose to people, livestock, or household pets; and the nursery industry has a strong interest in working with the Department of Agriculture to better inform consumers.

Subd. 2. Commissioner to coordinate. By March 1, 2007, the commissioner of agriculture, in consultation with industry groups and interested parties, must recommend procedures and display materials that will increase public awareness.

Subd. 3. Report to legislative committees. By April 1, 2007, the commissioner will report results to the agricultural policy committees of the house and senate.

Section

2 **Effective date.** Effective the day following final enactment.