

File Parks Dept

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
PLANT QUARANTINE DIVISION
FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20782

May 4, 1967

Mrs. Charles Busch
c/o Greenwood
2160 Stewart Ave., S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30315

Dear Mrs. Busch:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 28 in further reference to your request for authorization to receive a bonsai tree in soil from Japan. We have also received your letter of April 21 to the Director of Plant Importation, USDA, Beltsville, Maryland, which was referred to this office.

We have again carefully considered your request and still believe it best not to authorize importation of the bonsai tree in soil. This Division's experience through the years has shown that bonsai trees arriving in soil do carry various agricultural pests.

Lily bulbs may be imported from Japan in chemically treated subsoil. After the bulbs are packed, the shipping cases are tightly closed and are promptly loaded in vessels for export. However, a bonsai tree planted in subsoil and retained in Japan for a year can become infested with insects during that time. Therefore, we feel it would be unwise to admit the tree in subsoil.

We sincerely regret that our reply can not be more favorable and trust you will understand our reasons for reaching this decision.

We are referring a copy of your letter of April 21 to the New Crops Research Branch, Crops Research Division, Beltsville, Maryland, for reply to your inquiry concerning experimental importations of ornamental plants by the Department.

Sincerely yours,

Z. A. Barker

Z. A. Barker, Chief
Technical Services

cc: J. L. Creech w/c April 21 letter
Ivan Allen, Jr., Mayor of Atlanta
E. A. Burns