



OREGON
ASSOCIATION OF
NURSERIES™

SB 633

**The Oregon Association of
Nurseries recommends
voting**

YES

The Oregon Association of Nurseries (OAN) is a non-profit trade association that represents more than 1,000 nursery stock producers, retailers, landscapers and related companies serving the nursery and greenhouse industry. The OAN is the main voice for Oregon's nursery and greenhouse industry.

The nursery industry is Oregon's #1 agricultural sector with annual sales exceeding \$744 million.

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Senate Bill 633

Relating to genetically engineered agricultural product

The Oregon Association of Nurseries (OAN) fully supports the effort for common sense regulation of seeds for crop raising in our state. It is our belief that SB 633 ensures that crops are regulated at the state and federal levels instead of local counties or cities.

The issues surrounding SB 633 are not simple and the regulation of agricultural seed is a complex matter within the agricultural community. The nursery and greenhouse industry is consistently looking for new ways to create hearty plants and trees and are utilizing some the best science in the country become better at producing stock.

It is our view that the federal and state government are best suited, more capably funded, to carry out the regulatory needs for this issue in a fair manner with a level playing field. Throughout the country the nursery and greenhouse industry has seen a proliferation of local regulations on production methods – creating a competitive disadvantage. City and county lines are mere lines on a map and are quite arbitrary on to the geographic location of farms and nursery operations.

The Oregon Legislature has directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to oversee state seed laws for the State of Oregon. The Commodity Division at the ODA currently oversees the very large grass seed and vegetable seed industries and works in close cooperation with other states and the US Department of Agriculture in matters relating to dealer licensing, official sampling, phytosanitary certification and official record keeping.

The OAN has faith in the ODA and their experience in regulatory processes for seed production and is uniquely qualified to conduct these tasks throughout the state in an efficient, transparent and unbiased manner.

For these reasons, the nursery and greenhouse industry urges you to support SB 633. It is reasonable and fair to all agricultural producers.

The OAN urges you to vote YES on SB 633