

Notice to Arriving Travelers

We regret that it is necessary to take agricultural items from your baggage. They cannot be brought into the United States because they may carry animal and plant pests and diseases. Restricted items include meats, fruits, vegetables, plants, soil, and products made from animal or plant materials.

Agricultural pests and diseases are a threat to U.S. food crops and livestock. Some of these organisms are highly contagious animal diseases that could cause severe economic damage to the livestock industry and losses in production, which would mean increased costs for meat and dairy products. Other pests can affect property values by damaging lawns, ornamental plants, trees, and even homes.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are partners in this effort to protect American agriculture against the introduction of foreign plant and animal pests and diseases at our nation's ports of entry. USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) develops the policies that determine what agricultural products can come into the country and what products pose a risk and should be kept out. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at ports of entry enforce these agricultural policies. Confiscated items are carefully destroyed in special CBP facilities. For additional information, please visit the CBP Web site at <http://www.cbp.gov/> or write to:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Field Operations
Agriculture Programs and Liaison
1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20229

For more information on agricultural policy, please visit APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) Web site at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq> or call 1-866-SAFEGUARD. If you have any questions please write to:

APHIS-PPQ
Quarantine Policy Analysis
and Support Staff
4700 River Road
Unit 60
Riverdale, MD 20737

CBP: Protecting America's Agricultural Resources



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection