



CAYMAN ISLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORTATION OF PLANTS INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The Plants (Importation and Exportation) Law, (Revised 1997)

1. The Department of Agriculture hereby advises that under the Plants (Regulation of Importation and Exportation) Law (Revised 1997), the term 'Plant' includes any growing plant, cutting, bud, graft, bulb, root, seed, fruit and vegetable intended for propagation and/or consumption.
2. The Plant Law requires that a Plant Import Permit be obtained from the Department of Agriculture prior to the importation of any 'Plant(s)' into the Cayman Islands.

A written application to obtain this Import Permit must be made on a form supplied by the Department before procuring the consignment of 'Plant(s)' for importation.

(Applications will be processed within 72 hours of receipt of completed forms.)

3. Under this Law the Chief Agricultural and Veterinary Officer has prescribed the following conditions to be met before, and on, landing:

PART I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- (i) That 48 hours notice be given to the Department of Agriculture prior to the landing of the consignment of 'Plant(s)'.
- (ii) That the 'Plant(s)' are subject to inspection by the Chief Agricultural and Veterinary Officer or any person authorized by him
- (iii) That the consignment must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate from the country of origin and must be issued by an officer of that country's Government Agricultural Authority *. This certificate must indicate that the consignment has been inspected and found free of any pest or disease, and must be issued within seven (7) days of export.

Name(s) of chemical(s), concentration and rate of application used in pre-treatment, as specified under Part II, must be listed on the Phytosanitary Certificate.

**In the case of the USA this refers to USDA and/or individual State authorities that are recognized by the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture.*

- (iv) That a re-forwarding Phytosanitary Certificate be issued where a consignment of 'Plant(s)' arrive in the exporting country from another country and has been stored, re-packed or split up.
- (v) Where Phytosanitary Certificates are in a foreign language, a certified English translation should be attached.

PART II. EXCEPTIONS FROM REQUIREMENTS OF IMPORT PERMIT AND PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

The requirements of articles 3-5 of Part I do not apply to the following products: -

1. raw fruits, vegetables, bulbs, corns, tubers and rhizomes free of soil, **together** not more than ten (10) pounds;
2. a single bouquet;
3. five (5) sealed retail packets of seed;

as part of the passenger's accompanied baggage providing: -

- (a) they are free of pests;
- (b) they are not intended for use in the course of trade or business; and
- (c) have not originated from a country or region where a current restriction of plants from such country or region is in force in the Cayman Islands; or
- (d) from a state, province or country where a quarantine restriction is in force by the Agricultural Authority of that state, province or country

PART III. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

1. Cut flowers, fruits and vegetables or any plant product for consumption must be free of soil, pests, disease or signs of pest damage. Pre-treatment is not normally required.
2. Tissue cultured materials, packaged seeds, bulbs, buds and grafts from recognized institutions do not require treatment.

NOTE: Tissue cultured materials, buds and grafts can only be imported from institutions recognized by the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture.

3. Pre-treatment is required of all plants intended for propagation, as follows:-

(a) Growing plants (bare-rooted), including sprigs, must be treated with:

- Contact Insecticide
- Protectant Fungicide
- Molluscicide

(b) Bulbs, tubers and pineapple suckers must be:

- Dipped in Systemic Insecticide/Nematicide
- Dipped in Protectant Fungicide
- Free of Soil and Any Foreign Material

(c) Seeds, other than those from a recognized institution, must be free of soil, noxious weed seed and dusted with:

- Insecticidal Powder
- Fungicidal Powder

- 4 (a) Nursery stock with growing medium attached to their roots (including balled and burlap trees) is allowed from USA only.

- (i) A single entry plant import permit will be issued for each consignment of nursery stock.
- (ii) A phytosanitary certificate, which covers only the items listed on the import permit, must accompany the consignment. The import permit number must be referenced on the phytosanitary certificate.
- (iii) All phytosanitary certificates from States infested by the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug must contain an Additional Declaration:

“That the exporting nursery was inspected, within **ninety (90)** days prior to the date of export, and found to be free from infestation by *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green).”

- (iv) Nursery stock originating from Pink Hibiscus Mealybug infested States shall be treated as follows:
 - Soil/Growing medium drench using Imidachloprid.
 - Foliar application with Bifenthrin applied with organosilicate surfactant.
 - Protectant Fungicide
 - Molluscicide

All pesticides should be applied at the recommended rate as instructed by the label.

All nursery stock must be weed free.

- (v) The Cayman Islands will not accept nursery stock originating from quarantined nurseries or quarantined.
- (vi) The Cayman Islands will not accept nursery stock originating from previously quarantined nurseries until a period of thirty (30) days has passed since their removal from quarantine.

4 (b) Florida nursery stock from Pink Hibiscus Mealybug areas:

Florida nurseries eligible to ship nursery stock to the Cayman Islands must be certified by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry (FDACS-DPI) and be under a 90 day inspection cycle.

Eligible nurseries and brokers will be placed under a compliance agreement with the FDACS-DPI stipulating specific requirements relative to chemical treatments, treatment intervals, and record keeping.

Eligible nurseries and brokers must have a valid Import Permit (IP) from the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture listing the quantity and genera of authorized plant material.

Eligible nurseries and brokers may only ship nursery stock that is grown under the conditions of the compliance agreement.

The final chemical treatment must be witnessed by the FDACS-DPI during the final inspection, at which time a Federal Phytosanitary Certificate will be issued.

All certification conditions referenced in the Cayman Islands Import Permit must be adhered to. Conditions of the compliance agreement that must be adhered to:

Nursery

1. To treat all nursery stock for export at final inspection prior to shipment with the following:
 - (a) Foliar application of an EPA registered pesticide containing chlorpyrifos, acephate or bifenthrin.
 - (b) Protectant fungicide
 - (c) Molluscicide

All pesticides should be applied according to label instructions. All nursery stock must be weed free. Shipment of nursery stock must occur within 7 days following final inspection and treatment.

2. The nursery will treat all nursery stock intended for shipment to the Cayman Islands with a soil drench of an EPA registered pesticide containing imidacloprid 30 days prior to shipment according to the label instructions.
3. The nursery will treat all nursery stock intended for shipment to the Cayman Islands with a foliar application of an EPA registered pesticide of one of the following: chlorpyrifos, acephate, or bifenthrin 14 days prior to shipment according to label instructions.
4. Periodic visits will be conducted by a FDACS-DPI inspector to verify compliance with the conditions, which shall include inspection of nursery stock and pesticide application records.

Plant Broker

1. Must obtain nursery stock only from nurseries that have signed a compliance agreement and are certified for export to the Cayman Islands. Shipments of nursery stock must occur within 7 days following procurement of the plant material from the certified nursery.
 2. Treatment verification form from the producing nursery must be provided at the time of inspection indicating that the required chemical treatments have been completed as stated in conditions numbered 1, 2, and 3 listed above.
5. All chemicals used in treatments **must** be approved by recognized international agencies e.g. USA Environmental Protection Agency.

*Failure to comply with any or all of the above will result in the
confiscation of consignments.*

Your co-operation in the above matters will assist the Department in controlling the introduction of pests and diseases into the Cayman Islands.