



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Date: January 31, 2011

Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

To: Maryland Exporters

Plant Protection  
and Quarantine

Subject: USDA Re-Export Policy Change

2200 Broening Hwy.  
Suite 140  
Baltimore, MD  
21224

This letter serves as official notice of a policy change effective January 1, 2011 regarding the certification of re-exported commodities in the United States. This policy is available in the Export Program Manual (XPM) on line at:  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/plants/manuals/domestic/xpm.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/manuals/domestic/xpm.shtml)

Phone: (410) 631-0073  
Fax: (410) 631-0069

Effective January 1, 2011, shipments will no longer be certified using the following additional declarations to meet unknown third country requirement(s).

Federal Relay Service  
(Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish)  
1-800-877-8339

- “The commodity met the entry requirements of the United States.”
- “The United States does not require phytosanitary certification as a condition of entry for this commodity.”

Shipments will only be certified based on known third country requirements. Third country requirements are not maintained in EXCERPT. EXCERPT information will no longer be used for certification of re-exported shipments. It is the burden of the exporter, or an agent on their behalf, to provide known importing country requirements to certifying officials. The exporter or their agent can provide this documentation and any necessary translations in one of the following forms:

- Import Permit issued by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the importing country acknowledging commodity’s foreign origin and subsequent re-exportation from the United States, **or**
- Letter from the NPPO of the importing country acknowledging commodity’s foreign origin and subsequent re-exportation from the United States, **or**
- Copy of import requirements posted on the NPPO’s official website, with appropriate requirements highlighted by the exporter or an agent on their behalf.

Please note that email from individuals with the NPPO of the importing country will not be accepted as official communication of these requirements. Unofficial communication as shared by importers will not be accepted.

Shipments that enter/have entered the U.S. with a Phytosanitary Certificate from the country of origin can continue to be certified using a PPQ 579. Shipments that enter/have entered the U.S. without a phytosanitary certificate from the country of origin can only be certified using a PPQ 577. The actual country of origin must be listed in the Place of Origin block in each certificate type. These documents (phytosanitary certificate from country of origin – if available, and one of the forms



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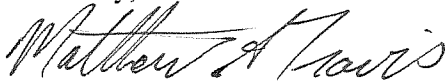
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of known import requirements) must be uploaded as an attachment(s) in PCIT. The Authorized Certifying Official (ACO) does not have to verify the authenticity or requirements as represented on these documents. The burden of the accuracy of these documents is placed entirely upon the exporter.

Please note that Customs and Border Protection officials with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security have been instructed to give the original phytosanitary certificate to the importer, if requested, to support any future re-export certification of the shipment. If you have any questions about the purpose or implementation of these changes, please contact my office or the local Export Certification Specialist (ECS). Contact information for ECS in the United States can be found on line at:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/plants/plant\\_exports/ecs/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_exports/ecs/index.shtml)

Sincerely,



Matthew A. Travis  
State Plant Health Director  
Maryland / D.C.

Cc: Carol Holko, SPRO, MD  
Michael Lovejoy, DFO, CBP