

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

Department of Homeland Security

PORT OF DALLAS/FT. WORTH

PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICE

DATE: 08/15/2008	NUMBER: DFW 08-022	FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL: Supervisory CBP Agriculture Specialist Toni Christensen at 972-870-7478
SUBJECT: Handling and coordination of quarantined material requiring fumigation or other treatment		

Purpose

To provide uniformed procedures to the trade community, air carriers, warehouse personnel, USDA, and licensed treatment entities for the proper notification and handling of Agriculture commodities requiring treatment.

Action

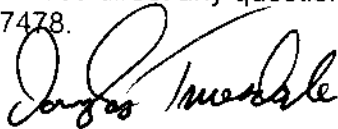
When a potential quarantine significant pest is found, the following procedures apply:

1. CBP Agriculture Specialists will safeguard the commodity using CBP Agriculture Quarantine tape. The tape is yellow and black, and easily recognizable by warehouse personnel. Depending on the perishable nature of the commodity, it will be ordered placed inside a refrigerated unit, or placed in quarantine inside the designated CBP Hold area at the warehouse.
2. The CBP Agriculture Specialist will notify warehouse personnel and importer/agent of the pending quarantine action. Notification will be made via telephone and/or in person.
3. Agriculture Specialists will complete PPQ Form 523 "Emergency Action Notification" (EAN) and fax it to the importer/agent for signature and quarantine action selected. Note: quarantine action may include fumigation, destruction, re-export, cleaning and disinfection, or other action as required by USDA. The EAN will also contain a time frame for completion of quarantine action.
4. Importer/agent selects the appropriate treatment, signs the EAN and returns a copy via fax to 972-870-7479, or other number as directed.
5. For treatments OTHER THAN fumigation, the importer/agent will work directly with the CBP Agriculture Specialist.
 - a. Sign and return the EAN as outlined above.
 - b. Contact the CBP Agriculture Specialist and arrange for disposition.
 - c. Note: If destruction by steam sterilization is selected, the importer/agent must bring a company check to pay the sterilizer facility.

DISCLAIMER: This information has been prepared for your convenience by the CBP officers at the Port of Dallas/Fort Worth. This material is intended to provide guidance. Recognizing that many complicated factors are involved in CBP matters, importers may wish to obtain a binding ruling under 19CFR Part 177. Reliance solely on this information may not be considered reasonable care. Importers are referred to Treasury Decision 97-96, which was published in the Federal Register of December 4, 1997, and in the Customs Bulletin of December 17, 1997, for in-depth information on the concept of reasonable care. Please visit our website at www.cbp.gov

6. For treatments that require fumigation, the importer/broker must coordinate with CBP, USDA, and the fumigator.
 - a. Importer/agent will sign the EAN and return to CBP. CBP will fax a copy of the EAN to the USDA office.
 - b. Importer/agent coordinates with the fumigator to schedule treatment.
 - c. Importer/agent contacts CBP and USDA to coordinate treatment time.
 - d. CBP will notify carrier/warehouse to remove the commodity from refrigeration to allow adequate "warm-up time" prior to fumigation. The commodity will be placed inside the CBP hold area at the designated warehouse. All quarantine controls other than refrigeration remain in place. NO OTHER ENTITY will instruct the carrier/warehouse to move items under Agriculture Quarantine.
 - e. The importer/broker will meet CBP Agriculture Specialists at the warehouse for transfer to the fumigation site. The importer/agent provides:
 - 1) An empty, covered, sealable vehicle, preferably with a lift gate and pallet jack.
 - 2) Adequate staff to offload the commodity.
 - f. Agriculture Specialists will remove the quarantine tape, and authorize movement of the commodity for fumigation. Procedures differ by airline.
 - g. Upon completion of treatment, USDA will notify CBP. CBP will release the commodity to the importer/agent for disposition. USDA will close out the EAN. A copy will be faxed to CBP at 972-870-7479

Please direct any questions to Supervisory Agriculture Specialist, Toni Christensen at 972-870-7478.



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