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# Plant and Plant Product Trade Contacts

Last Modified:

Not sure who to contact? We can help!

Select an option from the list below.

## I want to...

- pay user fees or ask about user fee-related policies
- ask questions about using the Automated Commercial Environment to submit APHIS-required import data for plants, animals, or their products
- bring plants or plant products into the United States when traveling or ask about import or transit permits and requirements for plants, plant products, or related materials
- ask about the Lacey Act declaration requirement
- ask about offshore agricultural commodity preclearance activities in foreign countries or offshore certification programs
- become an approved facility to handle regulated garbage or ask about related policy
- report illegal or smuggled agricultural products or learn how to import agricultural goods legally
- check the status of a propagative material shipment, notify us of a pending shipment, or ask about local clearance processes

- learn more about the National Cut Flower Release Program
- check the status of product that is located at a USDA plant germplasm facility
- find an export certification specialist in my State or ask about export requirements for plants or plant products

Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection User Fees

APHIS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection work together at our Nation's ports of entry to provide Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection (AQI) services. Contact our program specialists for questions about AQI user fees, including payments, how we set the fees, and related policies.

Cost and Fee Analysis Division

Email: aqi.user.fees@usda.gov

Phone: 301-851-2338

For financial and remittance submission questions:

AQI Accounts Receivable Team

Email: abshelpline@usda.gov

Phone: 612-336-3400

Alt-Phone: 877-777-2128

Fax: 612-336-3563

Credit Card Payments:

- www.pay.gov

Credit Card Payments:

- www.pay.gov

For U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) policy questions:

Process Resolution and Risk Management Branch

CBP Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison

Email: aptlprocessres@cbp.dhs.gov

Automated Commercial Environment

Contact APHIS' Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) team if you have technical questions about using the APHIS Core Message Set to file APHIS-required import data in ACE for plants, animals, or their products.

APHIS Core Message Set Help Desk

Email: ace.itds@usda.gov

ACE Team

Email: ace.itds@usda.gov

Import Permits and Requirements for Plants and Plant Products

Travelers and importers may contact specialists with APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program for a wide range of questions. We can advise on permits and requirements for importing plants and plant products (including wood, wood products, endangered plant species, and transit shipments) and what products are and are not allowed into the United States from abroad. We can also answer questions about permits for plant pests, plant pathogens, biological control agents, bees, plant pest diagnostic laboratories, soil, soil microbe isolation laboratories, Federal noxious weeds, and parasitic plants.

For help with transit permits (PPQ Form 586):

Transit Permits Team

Email: ppq.transit.permits@usda.gov

Phone: 877-770-5990

For help with controlled import permits (PPQ Form 588):

Controlled Import Permits Team

Email: controlled.import.permits@usda.gov

Phone: 301-851-2046

For help with postentry quarantine permits (PPQ Form 546):

Postentry Quarantine Permits Team

Email: plantsforplantingpermits@usda.gov

Phone: 301-851-2322

For general questions:

Plant Permits Team

Email: plantproducts.permits@usda.gov

Phone: 877-770-5990

For help complying with the Lacey Act declaration requirement:

Lacey Act Team

Email: lacey.act.declaration@usda.gov

For questions about CITES (endangered plant species)

CITES Team

Phone: 301-851-2347

For questions about permits for regulated organisms and soil:

Pest Permits Team

Email: pest.permits@usda.gov

Phone: 301-851-2285

Alt-Phone: 866-524-5421

Lacey Act Declaration

Under the Lacey Act, it is unlawful to import into the United States any plant or plant product that was illegally harvested. It is also unlawful to import certain products without a declaration. Our specialists can help you understand the Lacey Act declaration requirements, determine whether your product needs a declaration, and answer questions about how to file a declaration.

For help complying with the Lacey Act declaration requirement:

Lacey Act Team

Email: lacey.act.declaration@usda.gov

Commodity Preclearance and Offshore Monitoring Programs

Importers, producers, growers, industry representatives, and others may contact specialists with APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program for questions about our preclearance and offshore certification activities. This includes offshore agricultural commodity preclearance activities in foreign countries, certification of offshore plant production facilities in foreign countries, and the Offshore Greenhouse Certification Program.

Preclearance Team

Email: aphis-ppq-pop-pmt@usda.gov

Regulated Garbage

U.S.-based companies, aircraft cleaners, cartage firms, fixed-base operators, and others may contact APHIS plant health program specialists for questions about handling regulated garbage. We can advise on current policy for handling regulated garbage at U.S. ports of entry and, for those interested, assist you in becoming an approved facility.

To become an approved facility:

Regulated Garbage Facilities

Email: ppq.ops.regulated.garbage@usda.gov

Phone: 970-494-7483

Fax: 970-494-7501

Mailing Address:

Field Operations, c/o AQI VMO Director

2150 Centre Ave., Bldg. B

Fort Collins, CO 80526

To ask about the policy:

Regulated Garbage Policy Team

Phone: 301-851-3128

Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance

Contact APHIS' Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance staff if you think an agricultural product was imported into the United States without proper clearance. We can also answer questions about how to import agricultural goods (including animal products and byproducts) legally.

Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance

Email: sitc.mail@usda.gov

Fax: 800-877-3835

Plant Inspection Stations

Most imported plant material intended for propagation must transit through an APHIS plant inspection station to complete clearance and processing. Contact your nearest station to check the status of a shipment or notify us of a pending shipment. Our staff can also answer questions about local clearance processes.

- Select a State - ▼

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National Cut Flower Release Program

The National Cut Flower Release Program (NCFRP) is a compliance-based inspection program that uses pest risk analysis to reduce inspections for certain high-volume, low-risk cut flowers, helping to expedite their delivery to the buyer. APHIS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection carry out this program at eight ports of entry.

Contact our staff if you have any questions.

National Cut Flower Release Program

Email: ppq.ops.aqi@usda.gov

Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program

Importers may contact APHIS' Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program for questions about the status of a product at one of our facilities.

Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program

Phone: 301-313-9315

Export Certification

APHIS has certification specialists nationwide with expertise in export programs for plants and plant products. Contact the specialist in your State for questions about requirements for exporting commodities to another country.

- Select a State - ▼

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Trade Contacts

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