

Predeparture Passenger Baggage Inspection Notice for Travelers From Puerto Rico to the U.S. Mainland

American agriculture is under constant threat of attack from countless enemies. These enemies are often microscopic and include exotic pests and diseases of plants and animals. Every traveler, including those going from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland, may unknowingly carry these hitchhikers, which could seriously damage American agriculture.

All passenger baggage traveling from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland is subject to inspection. These inspections are conducted by officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prior to your departure. Please be prepared to open and close your own baggage. If you have agricultural items with you, please tell the inspector. Failure to do so can result in delays and fines of \$1,000 or more.

Agricultural Items From Puerto Rico Allowed into the Mainland (after inspection):

- *Allium* spp. (includes onion, garlic, and chives)
- Amaranth, *Amaranthus* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Anise
- *Annona* spp. (leaf)
- *Arracacia xanthorrhiza*
- Arrowroot
- Artichoke, Jerusalem
- Asparagus
- Avocado
- Balsam apple
- Bamboo shoots
- Banana (fruit, leaf without stalk or midrib)
- Basil
- Bay leaves, laurel
- Beans, shelled (faba, lima, string)
- Beans, in pods (faba, lima, string)—have geographic restrictions. For more information, please contact USDA's offices using the telephone numbers listed below.
- Beet
- Bitter melon
- *Brassica oleracea* (includes cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, kale, and collards)
- Breadfruit, *Artocarpus* spp.
- Breadnut
- Cacao bean pod
- Cannonball fruit
- Cantaloupe
- Carrot
- Cassava
- Celery
- Chamomile, *Anthemis* spp.
- Chayote
- Chervil
- Chickory
- Chinese waternut
- *Chrysanthemum* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Cilantro
- Citrus, fresh fruit (grapefruit, orange, lemon, lime)
- Coconut (without husk)
- Collard
- Corn (on the cob only)
- Cornsalad, *Vallerianella* spp.
- Cucumber (includes Angola cucumber, *Sicana odorata*)
- Cyperus corn
- Dandelion greens (leaf, stem)
- Dasheen, *Colocasia*, *Caladium* spp., and *Xanthosoma* spp.
- Eggs
- Eggplant
- Endive
- Ethrog (fruit)
- False coriander
- Fennel
- Flowers (fresh, cut, or dried)
- Genip
- Ginger root
- Gourd
- Guava (leaf)
- Herbs (dried or cured)
- Honeydew melon
- Horseradish, *Armoracia* spp.
- Indigo, *Indigofera* spp.
- Insects (dried or preserved)
- Jackfruit
- Kale
- Kudzu—if not seed, tuberous roots, or stems with node (must not be capable of propagation)
- Lambsquarter

- Lemongrass, *Cymbopogon citratus*
- Leren
- Lettuce
- Lily bulb, edible
- Lotus root
- Maguey
- Mangosteen
- Marjoram, *Origanum* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Mint, *Mentha* spp.
- Mushrooms
- Mustard greens
- Oregano, *Origanum* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Palm heart
- Papaya
- Parsley
- Parsnip
- Pepper
- Peas, *Pisum sativum* (in pod or shelled)
- Pet birds—entry requirements vary depending on the origin of the bird. Please consult USDA–APHIS’ Program Aid No. 1832, Importing a Pet Bird: Special Rules for Bringing Pet Birds of Non-U.S. Origin into the United States (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/ipdnew.pdf) for details on the entry requirements for pet birds.
- Pineapple
- Plantain (fruit, leaf without stalk or midrib)
- Plant cuttings and plants without soil
- Pokeweed greens (leaf, stem)
- Potato
- Pumpkin
- Purslane
- Radish
- Rhubarb
- Rosemary (leaf)
- Rutabaga
- St. John’s bread
- Salsify
- Savoy
- Snail shells (if empty and thoroughly cleaned)
- Sorrel, *Rumex* spp.
- Spinach
- Squash
- Stinking-toe (pod)
- Strawberry
- Sweet potato (leaf only)
- Swiss chard
- Tamarind bean pods
- Taro, *Colocasia* and *Caladium* spp.
- Tarragon
- Thyme
- Tomato
- Truffle
- Turnip
- Vegetable marrow

- Water chestnut
- Watercress
- Watermelon
- Yam, *Dioscorea* spp.
- Yautia (tanier), *Xanthosoma* spp.

Note: Commercially canned and thoroughly cooked foods are permitted. All permissible agricultural products are subject to inspection.

Agricultural Items From Puerto Rico Not Allowed into the Mainland:

- Cactus
- Citrus and citrus-related plants
- Citrus leaves (fresh)
- Cotton, cotton cuttings
- Fruits (fresh)—all fruits are prohibited except those on the preceding list
- Handicrafts made from Palm fronds
- Insects (live)
- Pigeon Peas (fresh)
- Plants in soil
- Seed cotton and cottonseed
- Snails (land)
- Seeds or nuts (pulpy)
- Soil
- Sugarcane
- Sweet potato
- Vegetables (fresh)—all vegetables are prohibited except those on preceding list

Additional Information

Lists are subject to change. For more information, call the USDA office at the airport:

Aguadilla: (787) 882–3515

Mayaguez: (787) 831–3424, (787) 806–1090/1219

Ponce: (787) 841–3135/3225

San Juan: (787) 253–4638/4651/4652

In addition, APHIS’ Web site contains a wealth of useful information for travelers at www.aphis.usda.gov/travel.

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