

# FAQs: How ePhyto functions in Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance & Tracking (PCIT) for US Exports and Reexports

## Does an Electronic Phytosanitary Certificate (ePhyto) require new procedures and training for industry or certifying officials?

There are no changes in the way applicants apply for a phytosanitary certificate or how certifying officials issue certificates in PCIT.

## How are ePhytos sent to the foreign country by PCIT and how do I find out the status of a certificate?

A certificate is automatically sent to a country participating in ePhyto when the certifying official "issues" the phytosanitary certificate.

- Applicants and certifying officials may view the status of an ePhyto by logging into PCIT and accessing "Manage Processed Applications", see the arrow in the left hand menu in the image below.
- The right hand arrow in the image below indicates "ePhyto Sent" and "ePhyto Received" status columns.
- The "ePhyto Sent" column indicates if the phytosanitary certificate was sent from PCIT to the International Plant Protection (IPPC) ePhyto HUB successfully.
- The status "ePhyto Received" column indicates if the foreign country successfully received the phytosanitary certificate from the IPPC ePhyto HUB. This is indicated with a "Yes" or "No".

## How should replacements certificates be managed in PCIT to support ePhyto?

- **It is extremely important to use the PCIT replacement feature instead of creating and submitting a completely new application.**
- This certificate status messaging is one of the most important aspects of ePhyto. When a phytosanitary certificate is replaced, the participating country receives a message that the first "ePhyto" is withdrawn/replaced.
- When the PCIT replacement feature is not used the country may see multiple active certificates for the same consignment. This will cause confusion and/or delays upon entry.

## Does ePhyto mean we don't need to send original paper certificates on security paper to a "paperless" ePhyto country?

- "Paperless" means that a country will not require an "original" printed security paper certificate to be presented on arrival and will instead review the ePhyto message in their system.
- At a minimum, the certificate number should be provided to the importer for presentation to the importing authorities. A paper copy of any certificates can always be created by the exporter in PCIT.

Welcome Michael Perry of Headquarters. [Sign Out](#)

**USDA** United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance & Tracking System (PCIT)

### Manage Processed Applications

Need Help ?

PCIT Home  
My Workload  
My Duty Station Workload  
Create Application  
With Template  
Without Template  
View Applications  
Manage Template Data  
Financial Management  
**Manage Processed Applications**  
Combine Certificates  
Print Wizard  
View Reports  
eLearning  
ECS Review  
ACO Training Data  
Manage Authorizations  
PCIT Administration  
NNC/Held Shipment  
ECert Administration  
View Incoming Certificates  
Phytosanitary Export Database (PExD)

Please enter search criteria to manage a list of processed applications. From the resulting list, you may choose to view it by clicking on the 'View' button, or you may manage the processed applications/certificates by clicking on the 'Manage' button.

Date Range is limited to a 90 day span.

Duty Station: LA - New Orleans (PPQ)  
and  
Application Status: Printed  
and  
Date Range: 06/01/2020 to 06/24/2020  
mm/dd/yyyy mm/dd/yyyy

or

Tracking Number or Certificate Number:

List of Processed Applications

Tracking / Certificate Number	Status	Issued Date	Destination	OCPA	ePhyto Sent	ePhyto Received		
	Printed	06/19/2020	Morocco		Yes	Yes	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="Manage"/>
	Printed	06/19/2020	Morocco		Yes	Yes	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="Manage"/>
	Printed	06/19/2020	Mexico		Yes	Yes	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="Manage"/>
	Printed	06/19/2020	Morocco		Yes	Yes	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="Manage"/>
	Printed	06/03/2020	United Kingdom	Yes	No	No	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="Manage"/>

USDA | APHIS | Export Program Manual | Hello/Contact Us

## FAQs: How ePhyto functions in Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance & Tracking (PCIT) for US Exports and Reexports

***Reexport certificates must be accompanied by a foreign phytosanitary certificate, so how does the foreign phytosanitary certificate get to a participating ePhyto country?***

- A foreign phytosanitary certificate is required to issue a reexport phytosanitary certificate.
- A foreign phytosanitary certificate must be uploaded under File Location as a .gif, .jpg, or pdf attachment, and identified as a foreign phytosanitary certificate using the File Description drop down menu in PCIT. See the arrows in the left hand menu in the image below.
- PCIT will automatically send the foreign phytosanitary certificate with the reexport ePhyto to the foreign country. The foreign country will then be able to review both the reexport ePhyto and the foreign phytosanitary certificate.
- Countries are increasingly adopting ePhyto and having the foreign phytosanitary certificate attached in PCIT is necessary for reviewing reexport phytosanitary certificates.
- If the foreign phytosanitary certificate is not attached in PCIT then the reexport ePhyto is not complete. The foreign country cannot review the reexport ePhyto until it is received.
- Applicants are highly encouraged to begin the practice of attaching foreign phytosanitary certificates now for all reexports even if a foreign country is not currently participating in ePhyto.
- **Not attaching a foreign phytosanitary certificate will cause confusion and/or delays upon entry.**

Welcome Michael Perry of Headquarters.  
[Sign Out](#)

**USDA** United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance & Tracking System (PCIT)

Application for Phytosanitary Certificate Need Help ?

**File Upload**

Click the 'Browse' button to select the file from your computer to upload. Long file names will be truncated to 40 characters (including the file extension).  
Items marked \* are required.

**File Location:**\*  FOREIGN PH...ments.pdf  
(.gif, .jpg, or .pdf)

**File Description:**\* Foreign Phytos

**If Other, More Details:**   
(40 characters max)

[USDA](#) | [APHIS](#) | [Export Program Manual](#) | [Help/Contact Us](#)