



## Department of Agriculture

Cayman Islands Government

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Cayman KY1-1106  
CAYMAN ISLANDS  
Ph.: 345-946-2967 / 345-947-3090  
Email: ciagricultureimports@gov.ky

# Conditions for the Importation of Fresh Christmas Trees and Wreaths into the Cayman Islands

(*Abies spp.*, *Pinus spp.*, *Picea spp.*, *Cupressus spp.*)  
Plants (Importation & Exportation) Law (1997 Revision)

---

## Scope

The conditions for the importation of Fresh Christmas Trees and Wreaths into the Cayman Islands include the general and specific conditions and requirements that must be followed for the importation of Christmas Trees and Wreaths made from *Abies spp.*, *Pinus spp.*, *Picea spp.*, and *Cupressus spp.* The conditions aim to ensure the protection of the Cayman Islands' ecosystem and agricultural resources while allowing the importation of these commodities.

## General Requirements

### 1. Written Application and Plant Import Permit

- a. Importers **must** submit a *completed* application on the prescribed form to obtain a Plant Import Permit from the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture (DoA).
- b. The application must be accompanied by the applicable fees.
- c. The DoA will process the applications in accordance with the Plant (*Importation and Exportation*) Law (1997 Revision).
- d. A response to the application will be issued within 72 hours of receiving the completed form.

### 2. Consultation with NPPO

- a. Importers must present the import permit issued by the DoA to the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the exporting country.
- b. The NPPO will provide guidance on the specific conditions for the importation of Christmas Trees into the Cayman Islands.

### 3. Phytosanitary Certificate

- a. The consignment must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued in accordance with *ISPM 12*.<sup>1</sup>
- b. The certificate should include a list of all treatments or chemicals used.

## Specific Conditions

### 4. Pest Control Program

Suppliers intending to export Christmas Trees to the Cayman Islands must have a pest control program to mitigate the threat of *Quarantine Pests*.<sup>2</sup>

### 5. Pesticide Treatment

- a. A pesticide treatment is required within 7-10 days prior to harvest.
- b. The pesticide treatment must include a federally approved Miticide, Molluscicide, Fungicide, Systemic and Contact Insecticide.
- c. Alternative to the pesticide treatment listed in sections 5a and 5b, post-harvest fumigation using Methyl Bromide or an equivalent approved fumigant can be used, following the dosage recommended on the label.

### 6. Tree Preparation

- a. Trees must be cut to be free of all roots and soil contamination.
- b. All trees must be manually or mechanically shaken for 10-25 seconds to remove insects, other organisms, or debris prior to wrapping and preparation for shipping.

### 7. Inspection and Pest-Free Requirements

- a. Trees intended for shipping to the Cayman Islands must be inspected and found free of specific pests as outlined:
  - i. **Rust Fungi:** *Cronartium ribicola*, *Cronartium quercuum*, *Colesporium asterum*, *Lophodermium seeditiosum* and the Brown Spot Fungi, *Scirrhia acaicola*.

---

<sup>1</sup> **ISPM 12**-This standard describes principles and guidelines for the preparation and issue of phytosanitary certificates and phytosanitary certificates for re-export, (FAO).

<sup>2</sup> **Quarantine Pest:** A pest of *potential economic importance* to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled (ISPM 5, FAO).

- ii. **Pine Needle Scale:** (*Chinaspis pinifoliae*), Elongated Hemlock Scale (*Fiorinia externa*), Hemlock Scale (*Abgrallaspis ithacae*) and Black Leaf Scale (*Nuculaspis californica*).

- b. The consignment must be free of soil and other pests of quarantine significance.

## **8. Shipping Timeframe**

All consignments must be shipped within twenty-one (21) days of the issuance of the Phytosanitary Certificate.

## **9. Identity and Documentation**

- a. All trees for importation should be labeled and correctly addressed to the importer.

### **Consignments must be accompanied by:**

- b. Cayman Islands Import Permit
- c. Original Phytosanitary Certificate issued and signed by an officer of the exporting NPPO
- d. Copy of the fumigation certificate (if applicable)
- e. Invoice and packing list
- f. Copy of Bill of Lading

## **10. Inspection and Phytosanitary Certification**

### **Notice and Inspection:**

- a. Importers must provide at least 24-hour notice to the DoA before the consignment arrives.
- b. All consignments will be subjected to inspection and testing by an Inspector of the DoA upon arrival.

### **Excess Quantities and Pest Discovery**

- c. Consignments exceeding the quantities stated on the Import Permit and Phytosanitary Certificate will be confiscated.
- d. If any pests are found, the consignment may be refused entry and returned to the country of origin, seized and destroyed, or subjected to post-entry treatment at the discretion of the Director of Agriculture.

## **Post-Entry Treatment**

- e. Post-entry quarantine treatment is generally **NOT** an option and will only be considered at the discretion of the Director of Agriculture based on the type of pest found.
- f. Importers will solely be responsible for all associated costs for post-entry treatment/s, quarantine, destruction, and/or re-export.

## **11. Disposal and Biosecurity Measures**

This protocol may provide guidelines for the proper disposal of Christmas Trees and Wreaths after the holiday season to prevent environmental contamination. Biosecurity measures are to mitigate the risk of introducing invasive species into the local environment.

- a. Christmas Trees and Wreaths must not be disposed of only in the areas assigned by the Department of Environmental Health.
- b. Importers must follow all other protocols that are in place by the Department of Environmental Health for recycling Christmas Trees and Wreaths.

## **12. Failure to Comply**

Consignments failing any or all of the above measures will result in refusal of entry or confiscation and destruction of the commodities.



**Department of Agriculture**

Cayman Islands Government

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Cayman KY1-1106  
CAYMAN ISLANDS  
Ph.: 345-946-2967 / 345-947-3090  
Email: ciagricultureimports@gov.ky

# Application for a Plant Import Permit

(Plants, parts of a plant or plant products)  
Plants (Importation & Exportation) Law (1997 Revision)

(Date Received)

## Christmas Trees and Wreaths

(*Abies spp.*, *Pinus spp.*, *Picea spp.*, *Cupressus spp.*)

**A. Permit Category:**  Single Entry

Name & Address of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Box: \_\_\_\_\_ KY - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Mailing Address of Exporter: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Origin: \_\_\_\_\_

Means of Conveyance:  Air  Sea Expected Date of Arrival (d/m/y): \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ /20

Type of Consignment:  *Abies spp.*  *Pinus spp.*  *Cupressus spp.*

Intended Use:  Decoration  Scientific Studies  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**B. List quantity required, common and scientific name(s) of plant or plant products(s)**

Quantity	Plant Size (Feet/Inch)	Common Name of Plants/ Plant Products	Scientific Name of Plants/Plant Products

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### C. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

<input type="checkbox"/> Application Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Application Denied	<i>Official stamp Date Issued</i>
Permit #: _____	Reason: _____	
Fee \$ _____	Date Notified(d/m/y): ____ / ____ /	
Date: _____	Notified via; <input type="checkbox"/> PH; <input type="checkbox"/> Fax; <input type="checkbox"/> Email	
Approved By: _____	Denied By: _____	

Note: Single entry permits expire 90 days after date of issue.