

Import permit & Inspection Procedure

- ⇒ Apply for Import Permit
- ⇒ Find Forms: www.doa.gov.ky
- ⇒ Email: ciagricultureimports@gov.ky (Plants and Plant Products)
- ⇒ Email: CI.AgricultureVS@gov.ky (Animals and Animal Products)
- ⇒ Pay applicable Permit Fee
- ⇒ Obtain a response within 3 working days
- ⇒ Send Import Permit to supplier to ensure import conditions are met
- ⇒ Declare & present import documents to Customs & Border Control and Agriculture for entry clearance.
- ⇒ On arrival, present consignment to the Department of Agriculture for inspection.
- ⇒ Allow post entry follow up when necessary

Documents needed for Inspection

- ⇒ Import Permit
- ⇒ Phytosanitary Certificate for plant product
- ⇒ Health and Sanitary Certification for Animal and Animal Products
- ⇒ CITES Permit for CITES species
- ⇒ Invoice (Copy)
- ⇒ Bill of Laden or Airway Bill (*If applicable*)

Import Inspection

- ⇒ Notify AHIS Office via Telephone or email (946-2967 / ciagricultureimports@gov.ky)
- ⇒ Sign taskforce invoice (When Applicable)
- ⇒ Pay inspection fee (When Applicable)



Agricultural Health Inspection Services (AHIS) Offices

Main Office

34 Owen Roberts Dr. (Airport Rd)
Customs Courier Building
George Town
Tel: (345) 946-2967
Email: ciagricultureimports@gov.ky

Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA), Grand Cayman

Tel: (345) 949-7909

Cayman Brac

Agricultural Show Grounds, 409 Songbird Dr.
Bluff Road
Tel: (345) 948 0622

THE IMPORT PROCESS



Department of Agriculture
Cayman Islands Government

THE IMPORT PROCESS

ROLE & FUNCTION

The basic purpose of the Agricultural Health Inspection Services (AHIS) Unit :

1. **Quarantine Inspection:** The inspection of plants, animals , their products and other regulated articles being imported or exported to ensure compliance with national and international standards, freedom from pest, diseases and contaminants
2. **Monitoring and Surveillance:** For invasive pests of quarantine importance, monitoring their presence and spread to prevent harm to agricultural crops, livestock, and ecosystems in the Cayman Islands.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the unit is to protect the cultivated and natural flora and fauna of the Cayman Islands from the introduction, establishment and spread of invasive pests and diseases; protecting the safety of the food supply; protecting human health from the introduction of zoonotic disease pathogens (animal diseases that can transfer to humans) all through a National Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regime.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The Laws governing the activities of the AHIS unit

- **The Plant Protection Act, 2023** and it's Regulations
- **The Animals Laws (2015)** Revision and it's Regulations
- **Endangered Species (Trade & Transport) Law (2017 Revision)**
- **National Conservation Act , 2013**

QUICK TIPS

Major documents required for the importation of plants, animal and their products into the Cayman Islands are:

- ◆ **An Import Permit**
- ◆ **Phytosanitary Certificate** for plants and plant products
- ◆ **Sanitary Certificate** for animal products
- ◆ **Health Certificate** for live animals

What is an Import Permit (IP)?

An Import Permit (IP) is an official document issued by the Department of Agriculture for the importation of agricultural commodities, live animals, and animal products outlining the conditions for pest and disease –free imports. Before placing an order, IP must be obtained and forwarded to the exporting country's inspectorate and supplier.

What is a Phytosanitary Certificate?

An official document from a country's agricultural authority certifying that exported plants or products comply with the importing country's phytosanitary regulations, crucial for international trade to prevent pests and diseases, ensuring compliance with importing country regulations.

What is a Sanitary Certificate?

An official food safety document issued by a government agency or public health department, confirming that a specific shipment of food meets safety and hygiene standards for human consumption. It is crucial for international trade, ensuring food meets importing country Regulations and is safe for consumption.

What is a Health Certificate?

An animal health certificate is a document issued by a veterinary authority or government agency that certifies the health status of an animal or group of animals, confirming their compliance with health requirements for movement or transportation, domestically or internationally. The requirements vary depending on the destination and animal type.

What category of products requires an import permit?

An import permit is required for the importation of:

- All plants, fresh fruits and vegetables, plant parts and seeds
- Meat and poultry products
- Seafood
- Live animals and biological products

What are some category of products that does not require an import permit?

Processed plants and animals products that are not capable of harbouring pests.