



Department of Agriculture

Cayman Islands Government

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Conditions for the Importation of Hay into the Cayman Islands

Plants (Importation & Exportation) Law (1997 Revision)

Purpose and Scope

The Department of Agriculture regulates the importation and exportation of plants and plant products to prevent the entry and movement of quarantine pests.

This condition applies to the importation of hay for animal feed from the United States of America (USA) and Canada.

The objective of this condition is to prevent the importation and spread of plant pests, including invasive weed seeds, exotic animals, and contagious animal diseases associated with the importation of hay for animal feed.

Definition

Hay is grass, legumes, or other herbaceous plants that have been cut, dried and stored for use as animal fodder/feed.

General Requirements

- A. A written application to obtain a Plant Import Permit must be made to the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture (DOA) on the prescribed form, and pay the applicable fees before any consignment of hay can be imported into the Cayman Islands.
Importers must apply for an import permit for all hay products, regardless of quantity.
- B. Applications will be processed by the DOA in accordance with the Plant (Importation and Exportation) Law (1997 Revision), and a response will be issued within 72 hours of receipt of the completed application form.
- C. Importers must present the import permit issued by the DOA to the Supplier in the exporting country for guidance regarding the conditions for the importation of hay into the Cayman Islands.

Specific Conditions

1. Species of hay that are allowed entry into the Cayman Islands include:

- Orchard (*Dactylis glomerata* L.)
- Timothy (*Phleum pretense*)
- Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*)
- Coastal Bermuda (*Cynodon dactylon*)

Any species other than those listed above must be approved through a full pest risk assessment.

2. Hay must not include other weeds; it must be harvested from pure stand fields or fields containing only mixes of the species listed in part 1 and stored in the country of export.
3. Manure used as a fertilizer in the production of the hay must not be obtained from herds which have tested positive for Johne's disease.
4. **Pre-Shipment Fumigation**
The hay container must be **fumigated 24 hours prior to departure** by an authorized USDA-approved fumigation service provider, using Aluminum Phosphide at a dosage of 15 pellets per 40-ft shipping container.
5. The consignment must be accompanied with a Treatment **Certificate issued by the authorized fumigator** specifying the fumigation date, chemical agent, concentration, and exposure duration. This certificate must be affixed inside the container, with a copy accompanying the invoice and bill of lading.
6. Hay bales must be free of pests, including hitchhiking arthropods, acari, and any other live alien species such as reptiles, amphibians or mammals.

Identity and Documentation

Consignments destined for entry into the Cayman Islands must be accompanied by:

- Cayman Islands Import Permit
- Treatment (Fumigation) Certification
- Invoice
- Copy of Bill of Lading

Phytosanitary Inspection

- A. At least 24 hour notice must be given to DOA before consignment arrives.
- B. Upon arrival all consignments will be subjected to inspection and testing by an Inspector of the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture.

- C. Consignments in excess of quantities stated on the Import Permit and invoice will be confiscated.
- D. If pests are found, the consignment will be either subjected to; refusal of entry and return to the country of origin, seizure and destruction or post entry treatment at the discretion of the Director of Agriculture.
- E. Post entry quarantine treatment is generally NOT an option and will only be done at the discretion of the Director of Agriculture according to the type of pest found. Where post-entry treatment is authorized, all costs associated with the treatment will be the responsibility of the importer.

Failure to comply with any or all of the above measures will result in the confiscation of consignments.