



Department of Agriculture  
Cayman Islands Government  
P.O. Box 459  
Grand Cayman KY1-1106  
Ph.: 345-946-2967 / 345-947-3090  
Fax: 345-945-2251 / 345-947-6501  
Email: ciagricultureimports@gov.ky

# Conditions for the Importation of Plants and Plant Products from Jamaica

Plant (Importation & Exportation) Law 1997 Revision  
The Cayman Islands Plant Protection Regulations

## SCOPE

The scope outlines the Cayman Islands' primary objective to prevent the introduction of invasive species and plant pests/diseases through the application of international phytosanitary measures while balancing the need to preserve the natural environment, promote agricultural sustainability, and facilitate the safe and efficient trade of plants, and other consumable plant products from Jamaica to the Cayman Islands.

These conditions are in two parts and apply to the **importation of cargo shipments only**.

## Part I: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Import Permit

- a. A written application to obtain an Import Permit must be made to the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture (DoA) on the prescribed form provided by the DoA before any consignment of plant products or propagative material is imported into the Cayman Islands.
- b. The Department of Agriculture (DoA) will process applications in accordance with the Plant Protection Regulations and will respond within 72 working hours upon receipt of a completed application form.
- c. **Importers must present the Import Permit issued by the DoA to the Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspection Division Officer in Jamaica** for guidance regarding the conditions for the importation.
- d. The import permit will be granted for only those commodities listed in **Part II** of this document, with the appropriate conditions for entry.
- e. Importers seeking to import any plant or plant products not listed may apply in writing to the DoA and such applications will be subjected to the appropriate Pest Risk Assessment (PRA).

## 2. Transportation and Packaging

- a. Commodities approved for importation must be shipped via sea or air **cargo only**.
- b. Except for certified seeds and commercially packaged condiments and spices not exceeding one kilogram (1 Kg), individual travellers are **not** allowed to import fresh plant products or propagative materials into the Cayman Islands from Jamaica as part of checked or carry-on luggage.
- c. Fresh/Perishable commodities must be shipped in suitable conditions and must arrive wholesome and fit for consumption, with no impediments or contaminants to prevent inspection.
- d. All commodities must be packaged in new unused standard-size boxes or bags and sealed to prevent the entry and/or escape of pests during transport.
- e. All containers/boxes containing fresh products that have passed inspection should bear the Jamaica Ministry of Agriculture stamp.

## 3. Inspection, Phytosanitary Certification and Quality

- a. The entire consignment of plant products must be inspected by authorized officers from the NPPO (Ministry of Agriculture, Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspection Division) at an approved packing facility or a designated Export Complex.
- b. Consignments of commodities intended for entry into the Cayman Islands **must** be accompanied by a valid Phytosanitary Certificate, issued and signed by an Officer of the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Jamaica.
- c. All treatments applied must be listed on the Phytosanitary Certificate.
- d. All consignments **must** be shipped within seven (7) days of the issuance of the Phytosanitary Certificate.
- e. All consignments will be subjected to inspection and testing, at the port of entry in the Cayman Islands by officials of the DoA's Agricultural Health Inspection Services Unit (AHIS).
- f. Consignments that are not listed, or that exceed the quantities stated on the Phytosanitary Certificate and invoice, will be denied entry and confiscated for destruction at an approved facility
- g. Consignments must be of good quality and free from contaminants at the time of inspection.

## **PART II: SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

### **1. Trader Registration and Commodity Standard**

- i. All traders must be registered in Jamaica with the Ministry of Agriculture, specifically the Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspection Division. Furthermore, all plant products intended for export to the Cayman Islands must originate from a packinghouse certified by the Ministry of Agriculture, Jamaica.
- ii. All commodities must be of good quality, clean, and **free of pests**, infection, soil, contaminants and foreign matter.
- iii. All commodities must be treated in accordance with the treatment outlined in Part II section 2 to 5 and Appendix 1 -IV of this document for the specific product.
- iv. The DoA reserves the right to prescribe additional treatment for any consignment, as may become necessary.

### **2. Fresh Plant Products**

- i. **Importation of fresh plant products from Jamaica into the Cayman Islands shall be permitted only if such products are officially approved and listed as part of this document.**
- ii. The treatment requirements listed in **APPENDIX III** are subject to change and commodities may be added to or removed from the list in accordance with the findings of an updated Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) for that commodity.
- iii. The treatments listed in **APPENDIX III** are the minimal treatment requirement for export to the Cayman Islands, the exporting NPPO can authorize additional treatment/s to mitigate other pests, including seasonal pests.

### **3. Dried Herbs for Consumption (Tea/Spices)**

- i. Dried condiments and spices in sealed commercial packages up to 1 kilogram intended for personal use would not require further Phytosanitary treatment or certification.
- ii. Leaves must be washed when necessary, dried, and free of seeds.
- iii. Roots and bark must be thoroughly washed to remove all soil and cut or chopped into pieces no larger than 1–3 cm<sup>2</sup> (not exceeding 1 inch in any dimension).
- iv. Commercially processed and sealed packages of teas that contain a combination of other species not listed in **APPENDIX IV** will be allowed entry, provided that the species can be identified and all the requirements have been met.
- v. All bulk consignments must undergo inspection and be sealed by the National Plant Protection Organization to prevent contamination or pest infestation.
- vi. Approved dried herbs for importation from Jamaica for consumption are listed in **APPENDIX IV**.

#### 4. Plant Propagative Material

- i. The selected list of propagative materials approved for importation to the Cayman Islands, in accordance with the policies and certification systems in place by the Ministry of Agriculture in Jamaica, is as follows:
  - Tissue-cultured plantlets
  - Certified seeds
  - Orchid plants (In soilless growing medium only)
  - Scion material
  - Yam (*Dioscorea spp.*) Cuttings ('Yam Head' or Minisetts)
- ii. Tissue-cultured material and packaged seeds from institutions recognized by the DoA do not require additional phytosanitary treatment.
- iii. Seeds for planting must be certified for export as follows:
  - Commercially sealed packages/tins of certified seeds would not require further Phytosanitary treatment or certification.
  - Seeds that are **not** in hermetically sealed commercial packages must be free of soil, pests (including noxious weed seeds) and dusted with a/an:
    - Insecticide
    - Fungicide
- iv. Orchid Plants: Nurseries desiring to export orchids to the Cayman Islands must be signatories to the **compliance agreement** with the Ministry of Agriculture, Jamaica (see the document attached in **APPENDIX V**). A pesticide dip treatment must be done at least 7 days before shipping to include a registered/approved insecticide, miticide, protectant fungicide, and a liquid molluscicide. Orchid plants can be imported in soilless growing media comprised of; washed rock, orchidata, sphagnum moss, charcoal, tree fern fibre, coir, and/or perlite. Orchid plants will not be accepted growing on wood/logs or in growing media that includes soil or other materials not listed above.
- v. Yam (*Dioscorea spp.*) cuttings ('yam head' or minisetts) intended for propagation must be treated by dipping in:
  - Insecticide
  - Nematicide
  - Fungicide
- vi. All chemicals used in recommended post-harvest and quarantine treatments **must** be approved by the Jamaica Pesticides Control Authority (PCA) and should be applied according to label instructions.

For the avoidance of doubt, tissue cultured and scion material (buds and grafts) can only be imported into the Cayman Islands from institutions recognized by the DoA.

## 5. The Importation of Plantain & Banana Fruits (*Musa spp*) into the Cayman Islands

### 1. Origin/ Farm Certification

- a. All consignments of **banana fruits** (*Musa spp.*) must originate and be accompanied by invoices from producers named and packed under the associated brands listed in **APPENDIX I** and must be accompanied by an Export Certificate from the Jamaica Banana Board.
- b. All consignments of **plantain fruits** (*Musa spp.*) must originate from producers listed and must comply with conditions set out in **APPENDIX II**
- c. All consignments of plantain and banana fruits (*Musa spp*) must originate from farms certified by the Ministry of Agriculture in Jamaica, and an additional declaration must appear on the phytosanitary certificate stating that the fruits were **grown in a parish or area certified free of Moko or Bacterial Wilt Disease *Ralstonia (Psuedomonas) solanacearum* (Race 2) or from parishes or area where the disease is not known to occur.**
- d. Farms should be working with standard commercial cultivation methods that comply with the principles of Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), including pest control, harvesting, sorting, cleaning, inspection, and packaging.
- e. Where an importer wishes to import from any producer certified under the Board GLOBAL G.A.P Certification programme but not currently listed in Appendix II they may apply to the C.I Department of Agriculture for consideration of the request.

### 2. Production

- a. Only farms located in parishes where Moko or Bacterial Wilt Disease *Ralstonia (Psuedomonas) solanacearum* (Race 2) is **not** known to occur are eligible for export of fruit to the Cayman Islands.
- b. Farms must maintain an active Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and/or the Jamaica Banana Board for the control of Black Sigatoka disease caused by the fungus *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*.
- c. Farms should maintain a comprehensive Integrated Pest Management programme in accordance with the recommendations from the Ministry of Agriculture and/or the Jamaica Banana Board for the control of other associated pests such as mealy bugs, thrips, and mites.

### **3. Post-Harvest Phytosanitary Treatments**

All *Musa spp* for export to the Cayman Islands must be treated as follows:

- a. Must be washed with a 5% chlorine bleach (Sodium hypochlorite) solution, allowing adequate time for the water to remove any insects, mites, and to kill any fungal spores that may be on the surface of the plantain/banana fingers.
- b. Cut ends of the hands and fingers must be treated with an approved fungicide solution before packing them in new and labelled boxes.
- c. Hands must be removed from the peduncle (main stalk) and divided into suitable finger portions.
- d. Fresh fruits must be selected without cracks, mechanical damage, and without pest or fungal attacks.

### **4. Packaging**

Commodities must be packed in new, unused standard-size boxes with traceability labels/brands of the producing farm.

**Failure to comply with any or all of the above measures in this condition will result in the confiscation and destruction of the consignment at the cost of the Importer.**

## 6. APPENDIX I

- i. Table 1 lists the Approved **Farms for the Exportation of Banana Fruits** (*Musa spp.*) from Jamaica into the Cayman Islands.
- ii. Where an importer wishes to import from producers certified under the Jamaica Banana Board GLOBAL G.A.P Certification programme but not currently listed in Table 1, they may apply to the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for consideration of the request.

**Table 1: List of farms approved to export banana fruits to the Cayman Islands**

Number	Name of Company/Farm	Location
1	Bodles Breeding Station	Bodles, St. Catherine
2	Byron Henry	Spring Garden, Portland
3	CASE	Buff Bay, Portland
4	Easton Cunningham	Unity Valley, Portland
5	Ewart Miller	Spring Garden, Portland, Jamaica
6	Gabaroh Cunningham	Hope Bay, Portland
7	Jamaica Producers Group Ltd	Polo Common Farm, Agualta Vale, St. Mary,
8	Law Mitchell	Windsor, Portland
9	Ramble Farm (Noel Clarke)	Ramble, St. Mary, Jamaica
10	Rose Hardie	Highgate, St. Mary
11	Wilbur Edwards	Ramble, St. Mary, Jamaica
12	Winsome Crosdale	Hope Bay, Portland

## 7. APPENDIX II

- i. Table 2. Lists the **Approved Farms for the Exportation of Plantain Fruits** (*Musa spp.*) from Jamaica into the Cayman Islands.
- ii. Where an importer desires to import from any producer certified under the GLOBAL G.A.P Certification programme but not currently listed in Table 2, they may apply to the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for consideration of the request.

**Table 2: List of farms approved to export plantain fruits to the Cayman Islands**

Number	Name of Company/Farm	Location
1	Bodles Breeding Station	Bodles, St Catherine
2	CASE	Buff Bay, Portland
3	JP Tropical Foods	Aqualta Vale, St. Mary
4	Vincent Gardener	St. Mary
5	Vijay Smith	St. Catherine
6	Anthony Grant	Ebony Park, Agro Processing Facility, Clarendon
7	Hanif Brown	Ebony Park, Agro Processing Facility, Clarendon
8	Hugh Jones	Ebony Park, Agro Processing Facility, Clarendon
9	Michael Williams	Ebony Park, Agro Processing Facility, Clarendon
10	Wayne Henry	Ebony Park, Agro Processing Facility, Clarendon



## 8. APPENDIX III

Table 3: Fresh Plant products approved for importation from Jamaica to the Cayman Islands along with the required treatment.

Common Name	Scientific Name	*Requirement/Treatment
Ackee	<i>Blighia sapida</i>	Processed by an Ackee Processor approved by the Bureau of Standards, Jamaica. Cleaned, blanched and frozen arilli only, maintaining the cold chain at 18°C
Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	Washed and disinfected
Banana (green/ripe)	<i>Musa sp</i>	Accordance with the conditions specified in Section 5.
Breadfruit	<i>Artocarpus altilis</i>	Washed and disinfected green fruits only
Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Cantaloupe	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Fumigation
Cho Cho	<i>Sechium edule</i>	Washed and disinfected
Cinnamon – (leaves, branches or bark)	<i>Cinnamomum verum</i>	Washed, disinfected and dried
Citrus Fruits	<i>Citrus spp.</i>	Washed and disinfected
Coco	<i>Colocasia antiquorum</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Coco Yam/Tannia	<i>Xanthosoma sagittifolium</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Cocoa	<i>Theobroma cacao</i>	Dried beans only
Coffee Beans- (Dried)	<i>Coffea canephora</i>	Fumigation for bulk/loose consignments, otherwise cleaned, individually sealed commercial packages only
Coriander	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>	Fumigation
Dasheen	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Escallion	<i>Allium fistulosum</i>	Fumigation
Ginger	<i>Zingiber officinale</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Gungo Peas (Green/Dry)	<i>Cajanus cajan</i>	Fumigation for bulk/loose consignments, otherwise cleaned, individually sealed commercial packages only
Irish Potato (Ware)	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	Washed free of soil, packed and shipped within 30 days of harvest or stored & shipped under such conditions as to inhibit sprouting
June Plum	<i>Spondias cytherea</i>	Hot water treatment
Marjoram	<i>Origanum majorana</i>	Fumigation
Nutmeg	<i>Myristica fragrans</i>	Dried
Oregano	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Fumigation
Onion	<i>Allium cepa</i>	Cured, free of soil
Papaya	<i>Carica papaya</i>	Washed and disinfected
Peanut	<i>Arachis hypogaea</i>	Fumigation, free of aflatoxin
Pepper, Chili	<i>Capsicum sp.</i>	Fumigation
Pepper, Scotch Bonnet	<i>Capsicum chinense</i>	Fumigation
Pepper, sweet	<i>Capsicum annum</i>	Fumigation
Pimento seeds	<i>Pimenta dioica</i>	Dried and clean seeds

**APPENDIX III-List of Fresh Plant Products continued**

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>*Requirement/Treatment</b>
Pineapple	<i>Ananas cosmosus</i>	Washed, Crowns and fruit stalks removed
Plantain (green/ripe)	<i>Musa sp</i>	Accordance with the conditions specified in Section 5.
Pumpkin	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i>	Washed and disinfected
Red Peas	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	Fumigation for bulk/loose consignments otherwise cleaned, individually sealed commercial packages only
Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Fumigation
Soursop	<i>Annona squamosa</i>	Washed, disinfected and inspected free of seed weevil and other pest' damage
Sweet Basil	<i>Ocinum basilicum</i>	Fumigation
Sweet Cassava	<i>Manihot esculenta</i>	Washed, disinfected and free of soil
Sweet Potato	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>	Washed, disinfected, free of soil
Tarragon	<i>Artemisia dracuncululus</i>	Fumigation
Thyme	<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	Fumigation
Turmeric	<i>Curcuma longa</i>	Washed, disinfected and free of soil
Watermelon	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	Washed, disinfected and free of soil
Yam	<i>Dioscorea spp.</i>	Washed, disinfected and free of soil
<b>Cut flowers</b>		
Anthurium (Blooms only)	<i>Anthurium sp.</i>	
Orchid blooms	<i>Orchidae sp.</i>	

## 9. APPENDIX IV

Table 4: List of **Dried Herbs** approved for importation from Jamaica for consumption only

Common Name of Herbs	Scientific Name
Ashwagandha	<i>Withania somnifera</i>
Bay Leaves	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>
Bishop's weed	<i>Ammi majus</i>
Bitter wood	<i>Quassia amara</i>
Black Cohosh	<i>Actaea racemosa</i>
Black Mint	<i>Mentha spicata</i>
Burdock	<i>Arctium lappa</i>
Cerasee	<i>Momordica charantia</i>
Chamomile	<i>Matricaria chamomilla</i>
Chanca Piedra	<i>Hyllanthus niruri</i>
Chaney Root	<i>Smilax Balbisiana</i>
Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>
Damiana	<i>Turnera diffusa</i>
Dandelion	<i>Cassia occidentalis</i>
Devil's Horsewhip	<i>Achyranthes Aspera</i>
Dog Blood Bush	<i>Rivina humilis</i>
Donkey Weed	<i>Stylosanthes Hamata</i>
Duppy Gun	<i>Ruellia Tuberosa</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus sp</i>
Guava Leaf	<i>Psidium guava</i>
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
Guaco	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>
Guelder Rose Cramp Bark	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
Guinea Hen Weed	<i>Petiveria alliacea</i>
Hortensia	<i>Hydrangea sp</i>
Horny Goat Weed	<i>Epimedium sagittatum</i>
Jack in the Bush	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>
Kama Sutra	<i>Satureja viminea</i>
King of the Forest	<i>Cassia alata</i>
Lavender	<i>Lavandula sp</i>
Lemon Grass	<i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>
Magnolia Vine	<i>Schisandra chinensis</i>
Medina	<i>Alysicarpus vaginalis.</i>
Moringa	<i>Moringa oleifera</i>
Perilla	<i>Perilla frutescens</i>
Pimento	<i>Pimenta dioica</i>
Raw Moon	<i>Trophis Racemosa</i>
Red Water Grass	<i>Zebrina Pendula</i>
Red clover	<i>Trifolium pretense</i>
Rosemary	<i>Salvia rosemarinus</i>
Sarsaparilla	<i>Smilax regelii</i>
Search Mi Heart	<i>Rhytidophyllum tomentosum</i>
Senna	<i>Senna alata</i>

**APPENDIX IV List of Dried Herbs continued**

<b>Common Name of Herbs</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
Sorrel	<i>Hibiscus sabdiriffa</i>
Sour Sop Leaf	<i>Annona muricata</i>
Spearmint	<i>Mentha spicata</i>
Spirulina	<i>Arthrospira platensis</i>
Strong Back	<i>Desmodium Incanum</i>
Trumpet Tree	<i>Cecropia peltata</i>
Vervaine	<i>Verbina officinalis</i>
White Pepper Mint	<i>Mentha x piperita officinalis</i>
Wormwood	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>
Woman Piaba	<i>Hyptis pectinata</i>
Yohimbe Bark	<i>Corynanthe johimbe</i>

## 10. APPENDIX V

### Compliance Agreement

#### Export of orchid plants to the Cayman Islands

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Exporter) (Address)

hereby agree to the following conditions for the export of orchid plants to the Cayman Islands.

- 1) Plants must be grown under conditions in which good agricultural practices for growing orchid plants are observed. These include placing plants on raised benches, propagating plants in shade houses or greenhouses, and the observance of appropriate integrated pest management practices.
- 2) Records relating to phytosanitary activities, such as treatments for pests and diseases, must be kept.
- 3) A pesticide dip treatment must be done at least 7 days before shipping to include a registered/approved insecticide, miticide, protectant fungicide, and a liquid molluscicide.
- 4) Orchid plants can be exported in soilless growing media comprised of; washed rock, orchidata, sphagnum moss, charcoal, coir and/or perlite.
- 5) Orchid plants will not be accepted growing on wood/logs or in growing media that includes soil or other materials not listed in part 4.
- 6) Accommodate routine monitoring visits from the Ministry of Agriculture Plant Quarantine Inspectors. All relevant phytosanitary treatment and records must be made available for inspection.
- 7) Agree to report any pest outbreak at the facility and effect any recommendations for corrective measures made by the Ministry of Agriculture Plant Quarantine Inspectors.
- 8) Agreement must be endorsed by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the exporting country.

Name / Signature: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_\_

NPPO DATE STAMP  
AND AUTHORISED  
SIGNATURE