



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

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	EFFECTIVE DATE December 14, 2004 (1st Revision)
Title PLANT PROTECTION (PHYTOSANITARY) IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESH STRAWBERRY FRUIT FROM CHILE	

File
3525-11F1/FC8

SUBJECT:

This directive outlines the plant protection (phytosanitary) requirements for the importation of fresh strawberry (*Fragaria*) fruit from Chile in order to prevent the introduction of quarantine pests.

This directive has been revised to eliminate the requirement for a permit to import for the importation of fresh strawberry fruit from Chile. Chile has successfully completed the trial importation period of fresh strawberry fruit.

Table of Contents

Review	3
Endorsement	3
Amendment Record	3
Distribution	3
Introduction	3
Scope	3
Definitions, Abbreviations and Acronyms	4
1.0 General Requirements	4
1.1 Legislative Authority	4
1.2 Fees	4
1.3 Regulated pests	5
1.4 Regulated Commodities	5
1.5 Commodities Exempt	5
1.6 Regulated Areas	5
2.0 Specific Requirements	5
2.1 Import Requirements	5
2.1.1 Pre-shipment Conditions	5
2.1.2 Permit to Import	5
2.1.3 Phytosanitary Certificate	5
2.1.4 Shipments through the United States (U.S.)	6
3.0 Inspection Requirements	6
4.0 Non-Compliance	6
5.0 Other Requirements	7
5.1 Other Canadian Import Requirements	7

Review

This directive will be reviewed every two years unless otherwise needed. The next review date for this directive is December 14, 2006. The contact for this directive is Joanne Rousson. For further information or clarification, please contact the Horticulture section.

Endorsement

Approved by:

Director
Plant Health Division

Amendment Record

Amendments to this directive will be dated and distributed as outlined in the distribution below.

Distribution

1. Directive mail list (Regions, PHRA, USDA)
2. Provincial Government, Industry (via Regions)
3. National Industry Organizations (determined by Author)
4. Internet

Introduction

A request from a Canadian importer was received by the CFIA to import fresh strawberry fruit from Chile. The current directive was developed in cooperation with the National Plant Protection Organization of Chile. With the successful completion of the trial importation period imports of fresh strawberry fruit require only a Phytosanitary Certificate.

Scope This directive is intended for the use of importers, CFIA inspectors, Canada Customs & Revenue Agency, exporters and the National Plant Protection Organization of Chile.

This directive superceded D-02-11 (Original) dated December 11, 2002

Definitions, Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIRS	Automatic Import Reference System
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISC	Import Service Centres
NAPPO	North American Plant Protection Organization
Permit to Import	Official document authorizing importation of a commodity in accordance with specified phytosanitary requirements.
Pest	Any thing that is injurious or potentially injurious, whether directly or indirectly, to plants or to products or by-products of plants, and includes any plant prescribed as a pest (<i>Plant Protection Regulations</i>)
Phytosanitary Certificate	A certificate patterned after the model certificates of the IPPC (FAO, 1990)

1.0 General Requirements

1.1 Legislative Authority

The Plant Protection Act, s.c. 1990, c.22

The Plant Protection Regulations, SOR/95-212

Canadian Food Inspection Agency Fees Notice, Canada Gazette, Part 1 (05/13/2000)

1.2 Fees

The CFIA is charging fees in accordance with the *Canadian Food Inspection Agency Fees Notice*. For information regarding fees associated with imported product, please contact the Import Service Centres (ISC) at the following phone numbers: Eastern ISC 1-877-493-0468; Central ISC 1-800-835-4486; Western ISC 1-888-732-6222. Anyone requiring other information regarding fees may contact any local CFIA office or visit us at our website at www.inspection.gc.ca.

1.3 Regulated pests

No quarantine pests, associated with strawberry fruit from Chile, were identified through the pest risk assessment and the trial shipment period (December 11, 2002 - December 10, 2004). However, if there are pests intercepted through product inspection and they are determined to be quarantine pests, they will be added to Canada's regulated pest list.

1.4 Regulated Commodities

All varieties of fresh strawberry fruit. (*Fragaria spp.*)

1.5 Commodities Exempt

Dried, frozen or processed strawberry fruit.

1.6 Regulated Areas

Chile

2.0 Specific Requirements

2.1 Import Requirements

Shipments must meet all requirements when they reach first point of arrival in Canada.

2.1.1 Pre-shipment Conditions

Shipments must be free of pests, soil, sand, leaves and plant debris.

2.1.2 Permit to Import

A Permit to Import is not required.

2.1.3 Phytosanitary Certificate

A Phytosanitary Certificate is required. This document must be issued by the National Plant Protection Organization of Chile within 14 days prior to shipment. The original Phytosanitary Certificate must accompany the strawberry fruit to Canada. An additional declaration is not required on the Phytosanitary Certificate.

2.1.4 Shipments through the United States (U.S.)

Fresh strawberry fruit imported and re-exported or transiting through the U.S. must be accompanied by the original Phytosanitary Certificate and, if applicable, a re-export certificate issued by or under the authority of the United States Department of Agriculture.

3.0 Inspection Requirements

Shipments will be subject to inspection and sampling on arrival to determine if pests are present. When a shipment is inspected, a random sample of 5% of the contents of the shipment will be examined and, if pests are found, the shipment will be detained pending the results of pest identification. If pests are not found in the initial 5% sample, but there is evidence of pest activity, e.g. presence of frass, signs of decay, or soil, a further 5% sample may be randomly selected and examined.

CFIA inspectors should:

- 1) verify that all import conditions relative to documentation conform to the Import Requirements specified under section 2.1 of this directive;
- 2) Examine shipment for pests, soil, leaves, and plant debris;
- 3) Inspect using the general instructions in the Plant Protection Import Inspection Manual for fresh fruit as a guideline, (Section 4.02.04);
- 4) Take specimens if any pests are found, detain the shipment, and submit specimens for identification according to the instructions in the Plant Protection Import Inspection Manual, Section 4.02.04 and 4.11.

4.0 Non-Compliance

Shipments found infested with pests will be held pending laboratory identification. Shipments will be refused entry and returned to origin or disposed of if they do not meet requirements or if they are found to be infested with a quarantine pest. If requested by the importer, and determined feasible by the inspector, such shipments may be rerouted to other destinations, or diverted to approved processing facilities, provided such a course of action does not cause unwarranted pest risk.

The Plant Health Division will advise the National Plant Protection Organization of Chile of any interceptions and of non-compliance with any of the conditions outlined in this directive. The discovery of quarantine pests during inspection in Canada or any other non-compliance may result in suspension of the importation program until remedial action is taken at origin.

The importer is responsible for any and all costs relating to inspection, disposal, removal, rerouting or diversion to processing facilities.

Notifications of non-compliance will be issued in accordance with D-01-06: *Canadian Phytosanitary Policy for the Notification of Non-compliance and Emergency Action*.

5.0 Other Requirements

5.1 Other Canadian Import Requirements

Other Canadian import requirements, which are in addition to those stated above, include:

- 1) chemical residue standards as established under the *Food and Drug Regulations*,
- 2) licensing and inspection requirements as established under the *Licensing and Arbitration Regulations* under the *Canada Agricultural Products Act*,
- 3) regulatory inspection as established under the *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Regulations* under the *Canada Agricultural Products Act*, and
- 4) packaging and labelling requirements as established under the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations*.

It is the importer's responsibility to know and satisfy these requirements.

Questions and requests for information on any requirements should be directed to local offices of CFIA.