



IMPORT REQUIREMENTS - Plant, Plant Products & Regulated Articles

In order to protect St. Kitts and Nevis' Agricultural, Ornamental and Forest Plants from the threat of foreign Pests and Diseases, please note the following conditions:

Please be advised any propagative (planting) material, plant cuttings, seeds, live plants, cut flowers & branches, ornamental or other unprocessed plant products and regulated articles such as sand and soil originating outside of St. Kitts and Nevis requires an import permit prior to entry into the Federation.

- ❖ An import permit must be obtained from the Plant Quarantine Unit, Department of Agriculture, St. Kitts and Nevis prior to the placement of an order. This document is to be presented to the exporter when ordering your consignment.
- ❖ First, an application form must be completed and submitted to the Quarantine Unit for an import permit. The information provided must include: name of importer, name (common and scientific) and quantity of items to be imported, detailed address of nursery/ place from where commodities will be exported, and rooting medium used. Any other pertinent detail that may be useful should also be included.
- ❖ On receipt of this request the Plant Health Division will carry out a pest risk analysis. (Sometimes additional demands are made of the importer for example the provision of a pest list or pest free status certificate from nursery, chemical treatment certificate etc.) **Pest Risk Analyses is a detailed procedure that can take weeks, therefore early requests are advisable (minimum 4 weeks in advance).**
- ❖ The import permit, if granted will state the quantity and type of plants that will be allowed and the conditions under which they will be allowed entry. Routine requirements include items being pest and disease free, free from soil and the consignment must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate.
- ❖ Once the consignment arrives it must be inspected by the Quarantine Unit prior to release. The inspecting officer is legally empowered to take whatever steps are necessary to protect the biodiversity of our country. Cargo imported in compliance with the import permit will be released after inspection, if in contravention the officer may detain, order treatment, confiscate and destroy or re-export or any other action based on his/her scientific judgement.

The Quarantine Unit should be notified 48 hours before the arrival of consignments.

Quarantine Unit
Department of Agriculture
La Guerite, Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis

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