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Date: Nov 26, 2018

Commodity Import Report (CIR)

Pepper, Bell (Fruit) from Ecuador into Continental U.S. Ports

The CIR contains current import regulation information for the selected Commodity Import (a specific commodity approved from a designated country, or region, into one or more designated ports). A flag (🚫) indicates information that is intended for and available to an APHIS/CBP audience only.

Capsicum annuum [Commodity Summary](#) [Guide Page](#) [Country Summary](#)

Active Alerts:

	Short Description	
	ATTENTION: No imports are authorized at this time. Import permits will not be issued.	DETAILS

Import Requirements

- Admissible Plant Parts:** Fruit
- Admissible Ports:** Continental U.S. Ports
- Import Permit Required:** NOTICE: program phytosanitary requirements designed for this commodity to meet U.S. entry requirements have not been met. Therefore, import permits will not be issued at this time.
- Subject to Inspection:** This commodity is subject to inspection at the port of entry and all general requirements of [7 CFR 319.56-3](#).
- Commercial Consignments Only**

- 6 **Phytosanitary Certificate:** Consignments must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Ecuador with an additional declaration stating the consignment was produced and prepared for export in accordance with the requirements authorized under 7 CFR 319.56-4.
- 7 **Packaging or Labeling Requirements:** The shipping box must be labeled with the identity of the production site.
- 8 **Port Restriction:** Do not import or distribute into or within Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any U.S. territory.

Instructions for Officers

- 9 Refer to the [Table of Phytosanitary Certificate Additional Declaration Language](#) to determine acceptable additional declaration language for specific country/commodity combinations. 

Commodity Information

- 10 For additional commodity information and images, visit <https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/gringlobal/taxonomydetail.aspx?id=8904>

Additional Requirements

- 11 These conditions are designed to prevent the introduction of the following quarantine pests: Andean potato mottle virus; *Anastrepha fraterculus* (Wiedemann), South American fruit fly; *Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann), Mediterranean fruit fly; *Neoleucinodes elegantalis* (Guenée), a fruit-boring moth; *Puccinia pampeana* Speg., a pathogenic fungus that causes pepper and green pepper rust; *Spodoptera litura* (Fabricius), a leaf-eating moth; *Thrips palmi* Karny, an arthropod; and *Tuta absoluta* (Meyrick) Povolny, South American tomato moth, tomato leaf miner.

General requirements

The National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Ecuador must provide an operational workplan to APHIS detailing activities the NPPO of Ecuador will, subject to APHIS's approval of the workplan, carry out to meet the requirements of this section. The operational workplan must include and describe the specific requirements as set forth in this section.

Production site requirements

Pepper production sites must consist of pest-exclusionary structures with double self-closing doors and all other windows, openings, and vents covered with 1.6 mm (or less) screening.

All production sites participating in the pepper export program must be registered with the NPPO of Ecuador.

The production sites must be inspected prior to each harvest by the NPPO of Ecuador or its approved designee in accordance with the operational workplan. If any quarantine pests are found to be generally infesting or infecting the production site, the NPPO of Ecuador will immediately prohibit that production site from exporting peppers to the continental United States and notify APHIS of this action. The prohibition will remain in effect until the NPPO of Ecuador and APHIS agree the pest risk has been mitigated. If a designee conducts the program, the designation must be detailed in the operational workplan. The approved designee can be a contracted entity, a coalition of growers, or the growers themselves.

The registered production sites must conduct trapping for the fruit flies *A. fraterculus* and *C. capitata* at each production site in accordance with the operational workplan.

If a single *A. fraterculus* or *C. capitata* is detected inside a registered production site or in a consignment, the NPPO of Ecuador must immediately prohibit that production site from exporting peppers to the continental United States and notify APHIS of the action. The prohibition will remain in effect until the NPPO of Ecuador and APHIS agree the risk has been mitigated.

The NPPO of Ecuador must maintain records of trap placement, checking of traps, and any quarantine pest captures in accordance with the operational workplan. Trapping records must be maintained for APHIS review for at least 1 year.

The NPPO of Ecuador must maintain a quality control program, approved by APHIS, to monitor or audit the trapping program in accordance with the operational workplan.

Packinghouse procedures

All packinghouses participating in the export program must be registered with the NPPO of Ecuador.

The peppers must be packed within 24 hours of harvest in a pest-exclusionary packinghouse. The peppers must be safeguarded by an insect-proof mesh screen or plastic tarpaulin while in transit to the packinghouse and while awaiting packing. The peppers must be packed in insect-proof cartons or containers, or covered with insect-proof mesh or plastic tarpaulin, for transit into the continental United States. These safeguards must remain intact until arrival in the continental United States or the consignment will be denied entry into the continental United States.

During the time the packinghouse is in use for exporting peppers to the continental United States, the packinghouse may only accept peppers from registered approved production sites.

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