

§ 12.9

the cords shall be furnished and affixed by the importer or his agent. Import-meats seals or cords and seals may be broken only by a Customs officer or inspector of the Meat Inspection Division, Agricultural Research Service.

In lieu of cording and sealing packages, the carrier or importer may furnish and attach to each package of product a warning notice on bright yellow paper, not less than 5 by 8 inches in size, containing the following legend in black type of a conspicuous size:

(Name of Truck Line or Carrier)

NOTICE

This package of meat or meat product must be delivered intact to an inspector of the Meat Inspection Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

WARNING

Failure to comply with these instructions will result in penalty action being taken against the holder of the Customs entry bond.

If the product is found to be acceptable upon inspection the package will be marked "U.S. Inspected and Passeded" and this warning notice defaced.

(b) Liquidated damages assessed for breach of a bond taken under this section, if not in excess of the Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer's delegated authority, and if a written application for relief is filed, may be canceled by the port director upon the payment of less than the full amount as he shall deem appropriate, or without the payment of any amount, as may be deemed appropriate, but the Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer shall not act under this paragraph unless the officer in charge of the local office of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Meat and Poultry Inspection, Department of Agriculture, is in full agreement with the proposed action. If there is no local inspector of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Meat and Poultry Inspection, the port director shall not act unless he has obtained the full agreement of the Food Safety and Inspection Service,

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Meat and Poultry Inspection in Washington.

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§ 12.9 Release for final delivery to consignee.

No meat, meat-food products, or animal casings shall be released for final delivery to the consignee until the port director is advised by the Department of Agriculture, or its representative, that the merchandise is admissible.

PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

§ 12.10 Regulations and orders of the Department of Agriculture.

The importation into the United States of plants and plant products is subject to regulations and orders of the Department of Agriculture restricting or prohibiting the importation of such plants and plant products. Customs officers and employees shall perform such functions as are necessary or proper on their part to carry out such regulations and orders of the Department of Agriculture and the provisions of law under which they are made.

§ 12.11 Requirements for entry and release.

(a) The importer or his representative shall submit to the director of the port of first arrival, for each entry of plants or plant products requiring a plant quarantine permit, a notice of arrival for any type of entry except re-warehouse and informal mail entries. Such notice shall be on a form provided for the purpose by the Department of Agriculture. The director of the port of arrival shall compare the notice of arrival which he receives from the importer or his representative with the shipping documents, certify its agreement therewith, and transmit it, together with any accompanying certificates or other documents pertaining to the sanitary status of the shipment, to

the Department of Agriculture. The merchandise may not be moved, stored, or otherwise disposed of until the notice of arrival has been submitted and release for the intended purpose has been authorized by an inspector of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs.

(b) Where plant or plant products are shipped from the port of first arrival to another port or place for inspection or other treatment by a representative of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs and all Customs requirements for the release of the merchandise have been met, the merchandise shall be forwarded under a special manifest (Customs Form 7512) and in-bond labels or Customs seals to the representative of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs at the place at which the inspection or other treatment is to take place. No further release by the port director shall be required.

[28 FR 14710, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 78-99, 43 FR 13060, Mar. 29, 1978]

§ 12.12 Release under bond.

Plants or plant products which require fumigation, disinfection, sterilization, or other treatment as a condition of entry may be released to the permittee for treatment at a plant approved by the Department of Agriculture upon the giving of a bond on Customs Form 301, containing the bond conditions set forth in §113.62 of this chapter to insure that the merchandise is treated under the supervision and to the satisfaction of an inspector of the Department of Agriculture or returned to Customs custody when demanded by the port director.

[28 FR 14710, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 84-213, 49 FR 41167, Oct. 19, 1984]

§ 12.13 Unclaimed shipments.

(a) If plants or plant products enterable into the United States under the rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture are unclaimed, they may be sold subject to the provisions of subparts C and D of part 127 of this chapter to any person

to whom a permit has been issued who can comply with the requirements of the regulations governing the material involved.

(b) Unclaimed plants and plant products not complying with the requirements mentioned in this section shall be destroyed, by burning or otherwise, under Customs supervision.

[28 FR 14710, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 74-114, 39 FR 12091, Apr. 3, 1974]

§ 12.14 Detention.

(a) Port directors shall refuse release of all plants or plant products with respect to which a notice of prohibition has been promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture under any of the various quarantines. If an importer refuses to export a prohibited shipment immediately, the port director shall report the facts to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs and the United States attorney and withhold delivery pending advice from that Department.

(b) In case of doubt as to whether any plant or plant product is prohibited, the port director shall detain it pending advice from the Department of Agriculture.

[28 FR 14710, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 78-99, 43 FR 13060, Mar. 29, 1978]

§ 12.15 Disposition; refund of duty.

Plants or plant products which are prohibited admission into the United States under Federal law or regulations and are exported or destroyed under proper supervision are exempt from duty and any duties collected thereon shall be refunded. (See §§ 158.41 and 158.45(c) of this chapter.)

[28 FR 14710, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 72-258, 37 FR 20174, Sept. 27, 1972]

AGRICULTURAL AND VEGETABLE SEEDS

§ 12.16 Joint regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Agriculture.

(a) The importation into the United States of agricultural and vegetable seeds and screenings thereof is governed by rules and regulations prescribed jointly by the Secretary of the