

strength material, surrounded by escape-proof mesh or netting of a strength and mesh size sufficient to prevent the escape of the smallest organism in the shipment, with edges and seams of the mesh or netting sealed to prevent escape of organisms. Each primary shipping container shall be securely placed within a larger secondary shipping container constructed of wood, metal, or equivalent strength material. The primary and secondary shipping containers shall then be placed securely within an outer shipping container constructed of corrugated fiberboard, corrugated cardboard, wood, or other material of equivalent strength, which outer container may have air holes or spaces in the sides and/or ends of the container, provided that the outer shipping container must retain sufficient strength to prevent crushing of the primary and secondary shipping containers.

(c) *Request for a variance from container requirements.* A responsible person who believes the container requirements normally applicable to the movement of the person's regulated article(s) are inappropriate due to unique circumstances (such as the nature, volume, or life stage of the regulated article) may submit in an application for a permit, a request for a variance from the container requirements. The request for a variance under this section shall consist of a short statement describing why the normally applicable container requirements are inappropriate for the regulated article which the person proposes to move and what container requirements the person would use in lieu of the normally prescribed container requirements. USDA shall advise the responsible person in writing at the time a permit is granted on the person's request for a variance.

[52 FR 22908, June 16, 1987. Redesignated at 58 FR 17056, Mar. 31, 1993; 62 FR 23956, May 2, 1997]

#### § 340.9 Cost and charges.

The services of the inspector during regularly assigned hours of duty and at the usual places of duty shall be fur-

nished without cost.<sup>13</sup> The U.S. Department of Agriculture will not be responsible for any costs or charges incident to inspections or compliance with the provisions of this part, other than for the services of the inspector.

[52 FR 22908, June 16, 1987. Redesignated at 58 FR 17056, Mar. 31, 1993; 62 FR 23956, May 2, 1997]

## PART 351—IMPORTATION OF PLANTS OR PLANT PRODUCTS BY MAIL

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 7711-7714, 7721, 7754, and 7755; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

- Sec.
- 351.1 Joint treatment generally.
  - 351.2 Location of inspectors.
  - 351.3 Procedure on arrival.
  - 351.4 Records.
  - 351.5 Return or destruction.
  - 351.6 Packages in closed mail dispatches.
  - 351.7 Regulations governing importation by mail of plant material for immediate export.

CROSS REFERENCE: For customs regulations governing importation of plants and plant products, see 19 CFR part 12.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 7711-7714, 7721, 7754, and 7755; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

#### § 351.1 Joint treatment generally.

The entry into the United States of certain plants, plant products, and soil is prohibited or restricted through various orders, quarantines, and regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) under the authority of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701-7772). To assist in enforcing the aforementioned orders, quarantines, and regulations, the Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs of APHIS have made provisions with the U.S. Postal and Customs Services to ensure closer inspection of prohibited or restricted imported articles.

[66 FR 21059, Apr. 27, 2001]

#### § 351.2 Location of inspectors.

Inspectors of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs and customs

<sup>13</sup>The Department's provisions relating to overtime charges for an inspector's services are set forth in 7 CFR part 354.