

§ 319.56-3

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 69 FR 71696, Dec. 10, 2004, § 319.56-2mm was added, effective Jan. 10, 2005.

§ 319.56-3 Applications for permits for importation of fruits and vegetables; issuance of permits.

(a) *Permit required.* Except for fruits or vegetables that may be imported under the general permit provided in § 319.56-2(b), (c), and (d) or for fruits and vegetables imported under an oral permit in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, no fruits or vegetables may be imported unless a specific written permit has been issued for the fruits or vegetables and unless the fruits or vegetables meet all other applicable requirements of this subpart and any other requirements specified by APHIS in the specific written permit.

(b) *Applying for a specific written permit.* Applications must be submitted in writing or electronically and should be made in advance of the proposed shipment and provided to the Plant Protection and Quarantine program.¹³ Applications must include the country or locality of origin of the fruits or vegetables, the port of first arrival, the name and address of the importer in the United States, and the identity and quantity of the fruit or vegetable.

(c) *Issuance of permits.* If APHIS approves the application, APHIS will issue a permit specifying the conditions applicable to the importation of the fruit or vegetable.

(d) *Issuance of oral permits.* Oral permits may be issued for noncommercial shipments if the commodity is admissible with inspection only. Oral permits may be issued for commercial shipments of fruits and vegetables arriving in the United States without a specific written permit if all applicable entry requirements are met and proof of application for a specific written

¹³Application for permits to import fruit and vegetables under this subpart may be submitted to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, 4700 River Road Unit 136, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; on the Internet using the APHIS Import Authorization System, <https://Web01.aphis.usda.gov/IAS.nsf/>; or by fax (301) 734-5786.

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permit has been supplied to an inspector.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0049)

[68 FR 37922, June 25, 2003]

§ 319.56-4 Amendment, denial, or withdrawal of permits.

(a) The Administrator may amend, deny, or withdraw a permit at any time if he or she has determined that conditions exist that present an unacceptable risk of the fruit or vegetable introducing quarantine pests into the United States. If the withdrawal is oral, the withdrawal of the permit and the reasons for the withdrawal will be confirmed in writing as promptly as circumstances permit.

(b) Any person whose permit has been amended, denied, or withdrawn may appeal the decision in writing to the Administrator within 10 days after receiving the written notification of the decision. The appeal must state all of the facts and reasons upon which the person relies to show that the permit was wrongfully amended, denied, or withdrawn. The Administrator will grant or deny the appeal, in writing, stating the reasons for granting or denying the appeal as promptly as circumstances permit. If there is a conflict as to any material fact and the person who has filed an appeal requests a hearing, a hearing shall be held to resolve the conflict. Rules of practice concerning the hearing will be adopted by the Administrator. A permit withdrawal will remain in effect pending resolution of the appeal or the hearing.

[68 FR 37922, June 25, 2003]

§ 319.56-5 Notice of arrival by permittee.

(a) Immediately upon the arrival of fruits or vegetables, from the countries specified in § 319.56, at the port of first arrival, the permittee or his agent shall submit a notice, in duplicate, to the Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs, through the United States Collector of Customs, or, in the case of Guam, through the Customs officer of the Government of Guam, on forms provided for that purpose, stating the number of the permit; the kinds of fruits or vegetables; the quantity or

the number of crates or other containers included in the shipment; the country or locality where the fruits or vegetables were grown; the date of arrival; the name of the vessel, the name and the number, if any, of the dock where the fruits or vegetables are to be unloaded, and the name of the importer or broker at the port of first arrival, or, if shipped by rail, the name of the railroad, the car numbers, and the terminal where the fruits or vegetables are to be unloaded.

(b) Permits may be revoked and other permits refused if the permittee or his agent fails to submit the notice of arrival or gives a false notice or in any other way violates the quarantine.

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[24 FR 10788, Dec. 29, 1959, as amended at 48 FR 57466, Dec. 30, 1983]

§ 319.56-6 Inspection and other requirements at the port of first arrival.

(a) *Inspection and treatment.* All imported fruits or vegetables shall be inspected, and shall be subject to such disinfection at the port of first arrival as may be required by an inspector, and shall be subject to reinspection at other locations at the option of an inspector. If an inspector finds a plant pest or evidence of a plant pest on or in any fruit or vegetable or its container, or finds that the fruit or vegetable may have been associated with other articles infested with plant pests, the owner or agent of the owner of the fruit or vegetable shall clean or treat the fruit or vegetable and its container as required by an inspector, and the fruit or vegetable shall also be subject to reinspection, cleaning, and treatment at the option of an inspector at any time and place before all applicable requirements of this subpart have been accomplished.

(b) *Assembly for inspection.* Any person moving fresh fruits and vegetables into the United States must offer those agricultural products for entry at the U.S. port of first arrival. The owner or the agent must make full disclosure of the type, quantity, and country of origin of all fruits and vegetables in the shipment, either orally for non-commercial shipments or on an invoice or

similar document for commercial shipments, and present that document to an inspector prior to moving the fruits or vegetables from the port in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section. All fruits and vegetables must be accurately disclosed and made available to an inspector for examination. The owner or agent must assemble the fruits and vegetables for inspection at the port of first arrival, or at any other place designated by an inspector, and in a manner designated by the inspector.

(c) *Refusal of entry.* If an inspector finds that an imported fruit or vegetable is prohibited or is so infested with a plant pest that, in the judgment of the inspector, it cannot be cleaned or treated, or contains soil or other prohibited contaminants, the entire lot may be refused entry into the United States.

(d) *Release for movement.* No person may move a fruit or vegetable from the U.S. port of first arrival unless an inspector has:

- (1) Inspected the fruit or vegetable and released it;
- (2) Ordered treatment at the port of first arrival and, after treatment, released it;
- (3) Authorized movement to another location for treatment, further inspection, or destruction;
- (4) Ordered the fruit or vegetable to be re-exported; or
- (5) Waived the inspection.

(e) *Notice to owner of actions ordered by inspector.* If an inspector orders any disinfection, cleaning, treatment, re-exportation, or other action with regard to imported fruits or vegetables, the inspector shall file an emergency action notification (PPQ Form 523) with the owner of the fruits or vegetables or an agent of the owner. The owner must, within the time specified in the PPQ Form 523, destroy the fruits and vegetables, ship them to a point outside the United States, move them to an authorized site, and/or apply treatments or other safeguards to the fruits and vegetables as prescribed by an inspector to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States.

(f) *Costs and charges.* The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service