

# PUERTO RICO

## SUMMARY OF PLANT PROTECTION REGULATIONS

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Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture  
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**The information, as provided, is for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as complete, nor should it be considered legally binding. Coordination with both your state and the destination state plant regulatory agency listed above may be necessary to stay up-to-date on revised requirements.**

### NURSERY STOCK DEFINITION

**Plants and plant products** means all vegetable matter, including but not limited to trees, shrubs, vines, forages and farinaceous plants, grains, vegetables, cereals, and parts or plant products such as leaves, stems, branches, roots, fruits, flowers, bulbs, tubers, stolons, cuttings, buds, grafts, seeds, tree trunks and wood. **Vegetative propagative material** means all plants and plant products, trees, shrubs, vines, bulbs, cuttings, grafts, buds, and seeds cultivated, maintained for, or capable of propagation, distribution or sale.

### GENERAL SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

All plants and/or vegetative propagating material introduced into Puerto Rico must be free from sand, soil, earth, and other foreign matter and must be accompanied by an inspection certificate issued by the governmental authorities in charge of enforcing plant quarantine regulations in the state, territory or district in the U.S. from which the material comes. The certificate must bear the name of the state, territory, district or country where the material was cultivated; the name and address of the consignee and importer; and the accepted common name or scientific name of the plant. It must also indicate that the material was duly inspected and is apparently free of plant pests. The material must meet all applicable federal quarantines.

Vegetative propagating material of sugarcane and pineapple is prohibited *except* for introduction by Federal and/or Commonwealth government experiment stations and plant nurseries under special permit issued by the Secretary of Agriculture. All fruits and vegetables must be free from plants, plant parts or other foreign matter. The introduction of soil, earth, sand or other similar material is allowed only under permit granted by the Secretary of Agriculture.

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The introduction of plant pests or live insects in any stage is prohibited unless a permit has been obtained previously from the Secretary of Agriculture. All public porters (ships, airlines, etc.) are subject to inspection.

**NOXIOUS WEEDS** (Contact Department for specific requirements)

*Acasia farnesiana*  
*Albizia procera* (Albizia)  
*Borreria alata*  
*Calotropis procera* (Ait.) R. Br. (giant milkweed)  
*Cleome viscosa* (jazmin de rio)  
*Cuscuta sp.* (fideillo)  
*Datura stramonium*  
*Eichornia crassipes* (jacinto de agua)  
*Eleusine indica* (pata de gallina)  
*Euphorbia heterophylla* (leche vana)  
*Imperata brasiliensis* (graminea)  
*Imperata cylindrica* (graminea)  
*Ipomoea sp.* (bejuco de puerco)  
*Ipomoea triloba* (bejuco)  
*Jatropha gossypifolia*  
*Mimosa casta* (zarza)  
*Opuntia dillenii*  
*Orobanche sp.* (maleza parasita)  
*Parthenium hysterophorus* (ajenjo)  
*Prosopis juliflora* (mesquite, bayahonda)  
*Rottboelia cochinchinensis* (caminadora)  
*Solanum viarum* (tropical soda apple)  
*Sorghum halepense* (yerba Johnson)  
*Xanthium strumarium* (common cocklebur)

**PLANT VIRUSES** (Contact Department for specific requirements)

Bean Golden Mosaic Virus  
Citrus Tristeza Virus  
Cucumber Mosaic Virus  
Dasheen Mosaic Virus  
Papaya Ringspot Virus  
Pepper Mottle Virus  
Potato Virus Y  
Rhyncosia Mosaic Virus  
Rosa Mosaic Virus  
Sida Mosaic Virus  
Sugarcane Mosaic Virus  
Tobacco Etch Virus  
Tobacco Mosaic Virus

## QUARANTINES OR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

### BACTERIAL CANKER

PEST: *Bacterium vesicatorium* Doiolge

STATES REGULATED: From all sources.

MATERIALS REGULATED: Tomato and pepper seeds.

RESTRICTIONS: Restrictions and/or prohibitions apply.

### COFFEE PESTS

PEST: All

STATES REGULATED: From all sources.

MATERIALS REGULATED: Coffee plants, seeds and coffee products.

RESTRICTIONS: Restrictions and/or prohibitions apply.

### VEGETABLE WEEVIL

PEST: *Listroderes costirostris obliquus* (Klug) and  
Whitefringed Beetle, *Graphognathus spp.*

STATES REGULATED: All states or territories of the U.S. and any foreign country.

MATERIALS REGULATED: Vegetables

RESTRICTIONS: Introduction of these insect pests is prohibited.

### TRISTEZA (Quick Decline)

PEST: Citrus Tristeza Virus (CTV)

STATES REGULATED: CA, FL and LA.

MATERIALS REGULATED: All citrus nursery stock.

RESTRICTIONS: Introduction of citrus nursery stock is prohibited.

**PALM PESTS**

PEST: All

STATES REGULATED: All states or territories of the U.S. and any foreign country.

MATERIALS REGULATED: All palm plants, palm seeds and palm products (fresh).

RESTRICTIONS: Introduction of regulated materials is prohibited.

**MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY**

PEST: *Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann)

STATES REGULATED: CA or any foreign country.

MATERIALS REGULATED: All

RESTRICTIONS: Introduction is prohibited.

**PLANTAIN AND BANANA PESTS**

PEST: All

STATES REGULATED: All foreign countries.

MATERIALS REGULATED: Seeds and/or vegetative parts and fruits of plantains and bananas.

RESTRICTIONS: Introduction of regulated materials is prohibited.