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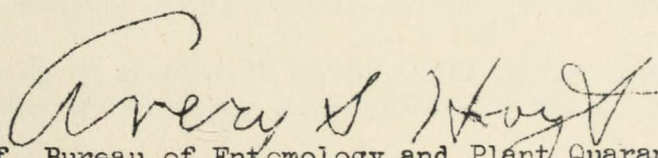
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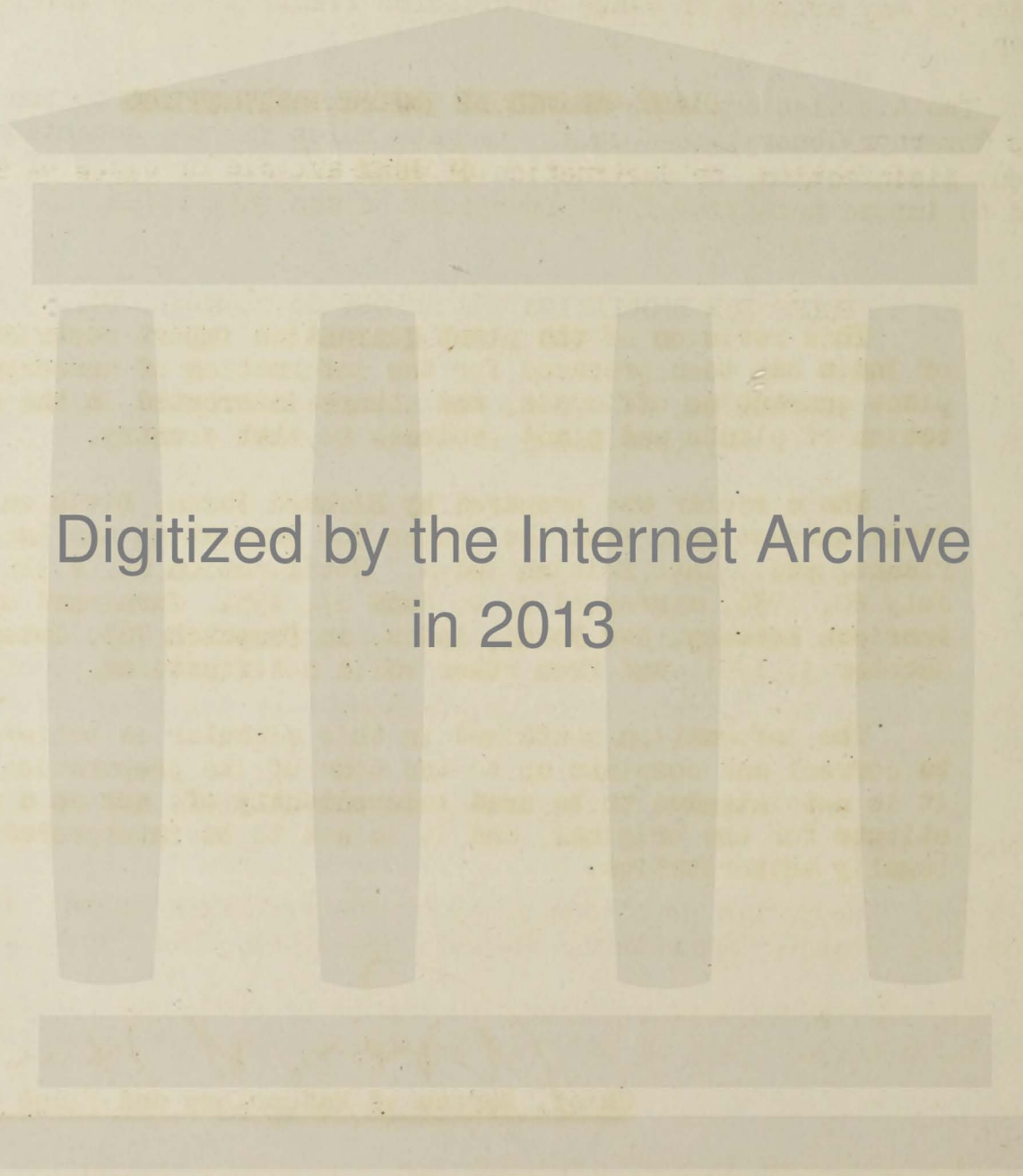
PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS
OF INDIA

This revision of the plant quarantine import restrictions of India has been prepared for the information of nurserymen, plant quarantine officials, and others interested in the exportation of plants and plant products to that country.

The circular was prepared by Richard Faxon, Division of Plant Quarantines, from the "Rules for Regulating the Import of Plants, etc., into British India," Notification No. F.320/35-A, July 20, 1936, corrected up to June 27, 1951, furnished by the American Embassy, New Delhi, India, in Despatch 765, dated October 3, 1951, and from other valid notifications.

The information contained in this circular is believed to be correct and complete up to the time of its preparation, but it is not intended to be used independently of, nor as a substitute for the original, and it is not to be interpreted as legally authoritative.


Chief, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine



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PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

OF INDIA

BASIC LEGISLATION

The Destructive Insects and Pests Act, approved February 3, 1914, as amended.

The Act empowers the Governor-General-in-Council, by notification of the Gazette of India, to prohibit or regulate the importation into British India of any article or class of articles likely to cause infection of any crop.

The Act also empowers the local government, subject to the control of the Governor-General-in-Council, to make rules for the detention, inspection, disinfection, or destruction of such article or class of articles and to impose penalties for infractions of the said rules.

RULES FOR REGULATING THE IMPORT OF PLANTS, ETC., INTO BRITISH INDIA

Notification No. F. 320/35-A., dated July 20, 1936
(corrected up to June 27, 1951)

DEFINITIONS

1. In this order:

(i) "Official certificate" means a certificate granted by the proper officer or authority in the country of origin (exports of plants and plant products from the United States to India must be certified by the U. S. Department of Agriculture);

(ii) "Plant" means a living plant or part thereof, but does not include seeds;

(iii) "Prescribed port" means any of the following ports: Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Dhanushkodi, Madras, Negapatam, Port Blair, and Tuticorin;

(iv) All provisions referring to plants or seeds shall apply also to all packing material used in packing or wrapping such plants or seeds.

MAIL AND PARCEL POST

2. No plant shall be imported into India by means of the letter or sample post; provided that sugarcane for planting intended to be grown under the personal supervision of the Government Sugarcane Expert, Coimbatore, may be imported by him by such post.

IMPORTATION BY AIR

3. No plant shall be imported into India by air; provided that plants which are infested with living insects and are intended for the introduction of such living insects may be so imported if they are accompanied by a special certificate from the Head of Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, that such plants are imported for the purpose of introducing such insects.

PRESS NOTES--RULES REGARDING PLANT IMPORTS (Despatch 958, 11/2/51, Amembassy, New Delhi)

Under the existing rules the import of the following seeds by air is restricted:

(i) The import of Hevea rubber seeds is prohibited from America and West Indies except by the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

(ii) The import of seeds of flax, berseem, cotton, and Mexican jumping beans is prohibited.

(iii) The import of coffee seeds and coffee beans is prohibited except by the Director of Research, Indian Coffee Board, Bangalore. This prohibition does not apply to (a) roasted and ground coffee, or (b) to a consignment of unroasted or unground coffee beans or seeds produced in India or in Burma and covered by a certificate of origin in the specified form and signed by a competent authority.

(iv) The import of sunflower seeds from Peru and Argentina is prohibited.

The transit of plants through India by air, or their transshipment, is, however, permitted provided they are accompanied by an official certificate and are packed in such containers as will not permit insects reaching or leaving the plant material and as are not opened in any part of India.

FUMIGATION

4. No plants other than fruits and vegetables intended for consumption, potatoes, sugarcane, and unmanufactured tobacco, either raw or cured, shall be imported into India by sea except after fumigation with hydrocyanic acid gas and at a prescribed port: Provided, that plants which are infested with living parasitized insects and are intended for the introduction of such parasites may be imported without such fumigation if they are accompanied by a special certificate from the Head of Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, that such plants are imported for the purpose of introducing such parasites.

CERTIFICATION

5. (1) No plants, other than unmanufactured tobacco imported from Burma, fruits and vegetables intended for consumption, and potatoes, shall

(2) The certificate shall be in the form prescribed in the Third Schedule, or in a form as near thereto as may be, and supplying all information called for in that form, which follows:

This is to certify that the plant (s), living plant (s), or plant

products a representative sample of the plant (s)
(Strike out the words not applicable)

living plant (s), or plant products included in the consignment, of which particulars are given below were/was thoroughly examined on the (date) by (name) a duly authorized official of the and found to be healthy, no evidence of the presence of any injurious insect, pest, or disease (destructive to agricultural or horticultural crops or to trees or bushes) having been found in/on them, and that the consignment (including the packing) covered by this certificate has/has not been treated in the following manner (e.g., fumigated with or disinfected with)

prior

immediately subsequent to inspection.

Inspected in the field by a duly authorized inspector on
Not inspected

Signature
Official Status

Date
No. and description of packages
Distinguishing marks
Description of plants or plant products or parts thereof
Started to be grown at
Exported by
Name and address of consignee
Name of vessel or particulars of route
Date of shipment
Port or place of entry
Additional Certificate (s) attached.

(Give here details of any special certificates issued in respect to imports specifically scheduled.)

POTATOES BY SEA

6. Potatoes shall not be imported into India by sea except from Burma, unless they are accompanied by:

(a) A certificate from the consignor stating fully in what country and in what district of such country the potatoes were grown, and

(b) An official certificate stating:

(i) That no case of warty disease (Synchytrium endobioticum) of potatoes or the existence of the pests, golden nematode (Heterodera rostochiensis) and Colorado potato beetle (Leptinotarsa decemlineata) in any stage of development has occurred at any time during 12 months preceding the date of the certificate within 5 miles of the place where the potatoes included in the consignment were grown;

(ii) That the crop from which the potatoes were derived was officially inspected in the field and that the degree of freedom from virus diseases was sufficiently high to ensure the suitability of the progeny for seed purposes and that the said crop was not grown in the vicinity of any unhealthy potato crop; and

(iii) That a representative sample of potatoes included in the consignment was thoroughly examined and found to be healthy and there was no evidence in it of the presence of any insect pest or fungus destructive to agricultural and horticultural crops;

Provided, that potatoes may be imported from Italy if they are accompanied by a certificate of freedom from disease granted by a Royal Phytopathological Institute in Italy;

Provided also, that potatoes may be imported under a certificate from the Head of Division of Botany, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, or the Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India, or the Director, Central Potato Research Institute.

RUBBER PLANTS

7. Rubber plants shall not be imported into India by sea unless, in addition to the general certificate required under Rule 5, they are accompanied by an official certificate that the estate from which the plants have originated or the individual plants are free from Fomes lignosus, Sphaerostilbe repens, Dothidella ulei (= Melanopsammopsis ulei), Fusicladium macrosporum, and Oidium heveae.

CITRUS PLANTS

8A. No lemon plants, lime plants, orange plants, grapefruit plants, or other citrus plants, and no cuttings of such plants shall be imported into India unless, in addition to the general certificate required under Rule 5, they are accompanied by an official certificate that they are free from the Mal Secco caused by Deuterophoma tracheiphila, or that the disease does not exist in the country in which they were grown.

TOBACCO

8B. Unmanufactured tobacco, either raw or cured, shall not be imported into India by sea except from Burma or the Kalat State, unless, in addition to the general certificate required under Rule 5, it is accompanied by an official certificate that it is free from Ephestia elutella or that the pest does not exist in the country of origin. (See also PQM No. 540).

Provided, that in the case of tobacco unaccompanied by such certificates, the consignment shall be examined on importation by such officer as the Central Government may appoint, on payment of such fee, if any, to meet the cost of such examination as it may direct.

SUGARCANE

9. (1) The importation of sugarcane into India by sea from the Fiji Islands, New Guinea, Australia, or the Philippine Islands is prohibited absolutely.

(2) The importation of sugarcane into India by sea from any other country is prohibited unless, in addition to the general certificate required under Rule 5, it is accompanied by an official certificate that it has been examined and found free from cane borers, scale insects, white-flies, root disease (any form), pineapple disease, Ceratostomella paradoxa (Thielaviopsis paradoxa), sereh, and cane gummosis, that it was obtained from a crop which was free from mosaic disease, and that the Fiji disease of sugarcane does not occur in the country of export:

Provided, that in the case of canes for planting imported direct by the Government Sugarcane Expert, Coimbatore, and intended to be grown under his personal supervision, such certificates shall be required only in respect to the freedom of the country of export from the Fiji disease of sugarcane.

HEVEA

10. (a) Hevea rubber plants and hevea rubber seeds shall not be imported into India from America or from the West Indies except by the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

FLAXSEED, BERSEEM, AND COTTONSEED

11. (a) Seeds of flax, berseem, and cotton shall not be imported by letter or sample post or otherwise than by sea (See also 13 and 14 (2)).

(b) The importation of "Mexican jumping beans (Sebastiania palmeri) of the family Euphorbiaceae" is prohibited absolutely.

COFFEE

12. Coffee plants, coffee seeds, and coffee beans shall not be imported into India except for experimental planting purposes only by the Director of Research, Indian Coffee Board, Bangalore, who shall take all measures necessary to ensure that such coffee plants, beans, or seeds as are imported by him are free from plant diseases and injurious insects:

Provided, that the prohibition hereinbefore contained shall not apply to (1) roasted and ground coffee, or (11) a consignment of unroasted or unground coffee beans or seeds produced in India or in Burma and covered by a certificate of origin signed by an authorized official.

13. Flax seeds and berseem (Egyptian clover) seeds shall not be imported into India by sea, unless the consignee produces before the Collector of Customs a license from a Department of Agriculture in India in that behalf.

RAW COTTON

14. (1) Unginned cotton, other than cotton from a port of Saurashtra or of the Lasbella or Kalat State which has been produced in India shall not be imported by sea or by air.

(2) Cottonseed shall not be imported by sea save for experimental purposes by one of the Directors of Agriculture and shall not be so imported by such officer save at the port of Bombay and in quantities not exceeding one hundredweight in any one consignment and on condition that it will be fumigated on importation with carbon bisulphide or methyl bromide: Provided, that, if the cottonseed is accompanied by a certificate from a Government Entomologist of the country of origin to the effect that the seed and its container have been treated in such a way as to destroy all insect life, the seed shall be examined on importation by such officer as the Central Government may appoint and shall not be required to be refumigated unless such examination shows that refumigation is necessary.

GINNED COTTON

Notification No. 1581, Agri., dated October 1, 1931, as amended up to April 18, 1950, Regulating the Import into British India of American Cotton or West Indies cotton.

Definitions

1. In this order:

(1) "Cotton" includes ginned cotton, and droppings, strippings, fly and other waste products of a cotton mill, other than yarn waste, but does not include cottonseed or unginned cotton.

- (ii) "American cotton" means all cotton produced in any part of America.
- (iii) "Bale" means any pressed package of cotton of whatever size or density.
- (iv) "Square Bale" means a bale exceeding 270 pounds.
- (v) "Round Bale" means a bale not exceeding 270 pounds.
- (vi) "West Indies Cotton" means all cotton produced in any part of the West Indies.

2. The entry of American cotton or West Indies cotton is restricted to ports of Bombay and Madras.

(a) On or before the departure of a ship carrying a consignment of American cotton or West Indies cotton for Bombay or Madras from the port from which the cotton is consigned, the consignee shall ascertain the name of the ship, the probable date of its arrival in Bombay or Madras, and the number of square and round bales in the above consignment, and furnish this information to Customs and other authorities in Bombay and Madras at least 14 days before the arrival of the ship at the port concerned.

(b) The cotton shall be disinfected on arrival at Bombay or Madras, as prescribed by the local government.

(c) Cost of fumigation is payable to Collectors of Customs at Bombay or Madras.

Samples of American or West Indies cotton by parcel post or ship's parcels not exceeding 20 pounds each shall be fumigated free of charge at Bombay or Madras Customs House fumigation chamber.

SUNFLOWER SEED

14A. Sunflower seed shall not be imported into India from Argentina and Peru by means of letter or sample post or as passengers' accompanied baggage or by any other means.

ONION SMUT

14B. No bulbs or plants of onion (Allium cepa), garlic (Allium sativum), shallot (Allium ascalonicum), leek (Allium porrum), chive (Allium schoenoprasum) shall be imported into India unless they are accompanied, in addition to the general certificates required under Rule 5, by an official phytosanitary certificate guaranteeing freedom from the fungus disease, Urocystis cepulae. (Notification of amendment of Notification No. F. 320/35-A, dated July 20, 1936, effective September 11, 1951.)

15. Nothing in these rules shall be deemed to apply to:

(1) The bringing by sea or by air from one port or place in India to another such port or place; or

(2) The transit of plants through India by air, or their transshipment if they are accompanied by official certificates as prescribed in entry (i) of Rule 1, and are packed in such containers as will not permit insects reaching or leaving the plant material and as are not to be opened in any part of India.





