

(2) If no comments are received on the notice or if the comments received do not affect the conclusions of the notice, APHIS will publish a subsequent notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER stating that the plant pest has been added to or removed from the list.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget Under Control Number 0579-0187)

§ 330.205 Hand-carry of plant pests, biological control organisms, and soil.

Plant pests, biological control organisms, and soil may be hand-carried into the United States only in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(a) *Authorization to hand-carry*—(1) *Application for a permit; specification of “hand-carry” as proposed method of movement.* A person must apply for an import permit for the plant pest, biological control organism, or soil, in accordance with § 330.201, and specify hand-carry of the organism or article as the method of proposed movement.

(2) *Specification of individual who will hand-carry.* The application must also specify the individual or individuals who will hand-carry the plant pest, biological control organism, or soil into the United States. If APHIS authorizes this individual or these individuals to hand-carry, the authorization may not be transferred to nor actions under it performed by individuals other than those identified on the permit application.

(b) *Notification of intent to hand-carry.* After the permittee has obtained an import permit but no less than 20 days prior to movement, the permittee must provide APHIS through APHIS’ online portal for permit applications or by fax with the names of the designated hand carrier, or carriers, assigned to that movement. Additional conditions for hand-carry are available on the APHIS website.³

(c) *Denial, amendment, or cancellation of authorization to hand-carry.* APHIS may deny a request to hand-carry, or amend or cancel any hand-carry authorization at any time, if it deems such action necessary to prevent the introduction or dissemination of plant

pests or noxious weeds within the United States.

(d) *Appeal of denial, amendment, or cancellation.* Any person whose request to hand-carry has been denied, or whose authorization to hand-carry has been amended or canceled, may appeal the decision in writing to APHIS.

§ 330.206 Packaging requirements.

Shipments in which plant pests, biological control organisms, and associated articles are imported into, moved in interstate commerce, or transited through the United States must meet the general packaging requirements of this section, as well as all specific packaging requirements on the permit itself.

(a) *Packaging requirements.* All shipments must consist of an outer shipping container and at least two packages within the container. Both the container and inner packages must be securely sealed to prevent the dissemination of the enclosed plant pests, biological control organisms, or associated articles.

(1) *Outer shipping container.* The outer shipping container must be rigid, impenetrable and durable enough to remain closed and structurally intact in the event of dropping, lateral impact with other objects, and other shocks incidental to handling.

(2) *Inner packages.* The innermost package or packages within the shipping container must contain all of the organisms or articles that will be moved. As a safeguard, the innermost package must be placed within another, larger package. All packages within the shipping container must be constructed or safeguarded so that they will remain sealed and structurally intact throughout transit. The packages must be able to withstand changes in pressure, temperature, and other climatic conditions incidental to shipment.

(b) *Packing material.* Packing materials may be placed in the inner packages or shipping container for such purposes as cushioning, stabilizing,

³ https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/permits/organism/downloads/HandCarryPolicy.pdf.