



Baggage Inspection Required for Travelers Going from Puerto Rico to the U.S. Mainland

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prohibits or restricts the movement of many agricultural products from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland, including most fresh fruits and vegetables and certain types of plants and flowers. That's because these items could harbor a dangerous stowaway—an invasive pest or disease. Just one piece of fruit or a single plant that is carrying an invasive pest or disease could cause millions of dollars in damage, expensive eradication efforts, and lost trade revenue.

To prevent the spread of invasive pests and diseases, APHIS inspects all passenger bags moving from

Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland at the airport prior to your departure. Please be prepared to open and close your own bags. If you have any fresh fruits or vegetables, plants, flowers, souvenirs made from plants or wood, or other agricultural products with you, please tell the inspector. Failure to declare these items can result in delays and possible issuance of civil penalties ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 per violation. In addition, if you wish to ship or mail agricultural items that are allowed into the U.S. mainland, they must be inspected and/or certified by APHIS before you take them to an airline cargo office, the post office, or other courier service.

Agricultural Items from Puerto Rico Allowed into the U.S. Mainland After Inspection

- *Allium* spp. (includes onion, garlic, and chives)
- Amaranth, *Amaranthus* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Anise
- *Annona* spp. (leaf)
- *Arracacia xanthorrhiza*
- Arrowroot
- Artichoke, Jerusalem
- Asparagus
- Avocado
- Balsam apple
- Bamboo shoots
- Banana (fruit, leaf without stalk or midrib)
- Basil
- Bay leaves, laurel
- Beans, shelled (faba, lima, string)
- Beans, in pods (faba, lima, string)—have geographic restrictions. For more information, please contact USDA's offices using the telephone numbers listed below.
- Beet
- Bitter melon
- *Brassica oleracea* (includes cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, kale, and collards)
- Breadfruit, *Artocarpus* spp.
- Breadnut
- Cacao bean pod
- Cannonball fruit
- Cantaloupe
- Carrot
- Cassava
- Celery
- Chamomile, *Anthemis* spp.
- Chayote
- Chervil
- Chickory
- Chinese waternut
- *Chrysanthemum* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Cilantro
- Citrus, fresh fruit (grapefruit, orange, lemon, lime)
- Coconut (without husk)
- Collard
- Corn (on the cob only)
- Cornsalad, *Vallerianella* spp.
- Cucumber (includes Angola cucumber, *Sicana odorata*)
- Cyperus corn
- Dandelion greens (leaf, stem)
- Dasheen, *Colocasia*, *Caladium* spp., and *Xanthosoma* spp.
- Eggs
- Eggplant
- Endive
- Ethrog (fruit)



- False coriander
- Fennel
- Flowers (fresh, cut, or dried)
- Genip
- Ginger root
- Gourd
- Guava (leaf)
- Herbs (dried or cured)
- Honeydew melon
- Horseradish, *Armoracia* spp.
- Indigo, *Indigofera* spp.
- Insects (dried or preserved)
- Jackfruit
- Kale
- Kudzu—if not seed, tuberous roots, or stems with node (must not be capable of propagation)
- Lambsquarter
- Lemongrass, *Cymbopogon citratus*
- Leren
- Lettuce
- Lily bulb, edible
- Lotus root
- Maguey
- Mangosteen
- Marjoram, *Origanum* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Mint, *Mentha* spp.
- Mushrooms
- Mustard greens
- Oregano, *Origanum* spp. (leaf, stem)
- Palm heart
- Papaya
- Parsley
- Parsnip
- Pepper
- Peas, *Pisum sativum* (in pod or shelled)
- Pet birds¹
- Pineapple
- Plantain (fruit, leaf without stalk or midrib)
- Plant cuttings and plants without soil
- Pokeweed greens (leaf, stem)
- Potato
- Pumpkin
- Purslane
- Radish
- Rhubarb
- Rosemary (leaf)
- Rutabaga
- St. John's bread
- Salsify
- Savoy
- Snail shells (if empty and thoroughly cleaned)
- Sorrel, *Rumex* spp.
- Spinach
- Squash
- Stinking-toe (pod)
- Strawberry
- Sweet potato (leaf only)
- Swiss chard
- Tamarind bean pods
- Taro, *Colocasia* and *Caladium* spp.
- Tarragon
- Thyme
- Tomato
- Truffle
- Turnip
- Vegetable marrow
- Water chestnut
- Watercress
- Watermelon
- Yam, *Dioscorea* spp.
- Yautia (tanier), *Xanthosoma* spp.

Note: Commercially canned and thoroughly cooked foods are permitted. All permissible agricultural products are subject to inspection.

Agricultural Items from Puerto Rico Not Allowed into the U.S. Mainland

- Cactus
- Citrus and citrus-related plants
- Citrus leaves (fresh)
- Cotton, cotton cuttings
- Fruits (fresh)—all fruits are prohibited except those on the preceding list
- Handicrafts made from Palm fronds
- Insects (live)
- Pigeon Peas (fresh)
- Plants in soil
- Seed cotton and cottonseed
- Snails (land)
- Seeds or nuts (pulpy)
- Soil
- Sugarcane
- Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)
- Sweet potato
- Vegetables (fresh)—all vegetables are prohibited except those on preceding list

For More Information

Lists are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, call the USDA office at the airport:

Aguada: (787) 986-7240

Aguadilla: (787) 931-7900

Carolina: (787) 710-7282 or (787) 710-7443

Ponce: (787) 709-4957

San Juan: (787) 919-0585

For more information, please visit APHIS' Web site at www.aphis.usda.gov/travel.

¹ Entry requirements vary depending on the origin of the bird. Please visit the APHIS' Pet Travel Website at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel/pet-travel-home-page> for details.