

**BRINGING  
AGRICULTURE  
PRODUCTS TO THE  
UNITED STATES  
FROM CANADA**



**UNITED STATES  
CUSTOMS AND BORDER  
PROTECTION**

**AGRICULTURE INFORMATION:**  
PEACE ARCH (360)332-8511  
PACIFIC HIGHWAY (360)332-2351  
COMMERCIAL (360)332-1640

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This is provided as a guide for individuals bringing fruits, vegetables, plants, seeds, nuts, plant products, animals, and animal products from Canada to Washington. Requirements for items from other sources or destinations may be more restrictive. This information is not exhaustive, and is intended for travelers, **NOT FOR COMMERCIAL IMPORTERS.**

## Fresh Fruit

*(Citrus & Tropical Fruits are Prohibited)*

U.S. fruits, except citrus, may return if they are in season and clearly marked with U.S. brand labels (For example, Washington apples with stickers). Citrus fruits (Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Grapefruit, Kumquats and Mandarins) are imported into Canada from all over the world and may carry insect pests or diseases that would be harmful to U.S. agriculture. Because of this risk citrus fruits are not allowed.

Fruits grown in Canada or the United States are allowed if labeled. Labeled Bananas from South or Central America are allowed. Home grown and other fruits are restricted or prohibited. Fruits that are obviously **out of season** when they are presented (for example, grapes or peaches in the Spring), are not grown in Canada or the United States and are prohibited.

Citrus, Mangoes, Avocados, Rambutans, Plantains, Lychee (Litchi), Longans, Langsats, Durian and many other fruits are not grown in Canada. Canada imports fruit from many countries. **If there is any doubt about origin, fruit will be prohibited.**

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## Fresh Vegetables

Vegetables grown in Canada or The United States are usually allowed. Garlic Chives, Chives, Green Onions, Leeks, or any other green Allium vegetables are prohibited from Canada. Bulb Garlic must be labeled or fully peeled. Potatoes are allowed only if commercially packaged or peeled. Corn on the cob is allowed only if grown in British Columbia or the western United States. All Tomatoes and Peppers (Bell, Chili, Jalapeno, etc.) are prohibited, except with U.S. or Mexico labels or as a cut-up ingredient. Okra and Eggplant are prohibited. **Check Labels.**

**Vegetables from other countries are prohibited or restricted.** Frozen vegetables are allowed.

## Meat and Animal Products

Meat and meat products identifiable as containing beef, pork, poultry (chicken, turkey, & eggs), seafood, milk, cheese, bison, or farm-raised venison are allowed from Canada, limited to 50 lbs.

**Lamb and Goat**, including fresh, frozen, raw, cooked, canned, sausage, curry, homemade sauces containing lamb or goat, sheep casings, etc., are prohibited from Canada.

**Hunter-Harvested Wild Game** is enterable, with valid hunting license, subject to USDA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife restrictions.

**Moon Cakes containing egg yolks and Preserved or Salted Eggs** from countries other than Canada are prohibited.

**Instant Noodles or Soup** containing chicken or egg in the seasoning is prohibited from most countries other than the United States.

Seasonings containing beef is prohibited from Japan and most European countries.

**Pet Food and Pet Treats** containing lamb or goat, whether dry, canned, fresh, semi-moist, or veterinarian prescribed, are prohibited unless label on bag or can shows U.S. origin. Beef, chicken, fish, pork, and vegetarian pet food are currently allowed from Canada with a label listing the ingredients except for Fresh/Frozen pet food. Fresh/Frozen pet food is prohibited from all countries. All pet food and treats must be in the original containers showing the ingredients and origin of the product.

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## Live Animals & Birds

**Dogs and Cats** must be healthy, and dogs require current rabies certificates.

**Birds, Hatching Eggs, Carp and other live animals** are subject to USDA Veterinarian inspection to enter or re-enter the United States.

Call USDA Veterinary Services  
before you travel.

## Seeds, Nuts, Rice & Herbal Medicine

Rice, Chickpeas, Soybeans, Cucurbit Seeds, and Safflower Seeds must be labeled with country of origin and are prohibited from countries including India, Iran, and other Middle Eastern Countries. Most nuts, seeds, and spices for cooking or eating that have been roasted, boiled, shelled, split or ground are allowed. Peanuts must be roasted or boiled. Cumin (Jecra) must be ground. Raw nuts and seeds for eating that were grown in Canada or the United States are allowed. Herbal medicine containing dried citrus peel, ginseng, sliced deer antler, bird's nest or certain seeds are prohibited.

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## Firewood

All firewood is prohibited unless accompanied by heat treatment certificate. Travelers with prohibited firewood will be returned to Canada to dispose of firewood.

**Don't Move Firewood!  
Buy It Where You Burn It!**

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## Outdoor Articles, Boats, & Recreational Vehicles

Inspect and Clean articles, equipment and vehicles stored outdoors to ensure freedom from injurious insect pests and weed seeds.

### **IMPORTANT:**

**Failure to declare prohibited agriculture products may result in penalties (fines) of \$300 or more.**

**Failure to declare prohibited agriculture products by NEXUS Members may result in a \$500 penalty and loss of NEXUS Membership.**

## Plants

A Phytosanitary Certificate or Greenhouse Certification Program label is required for all plants, bulbs and cuttings. Plants may be subject to special certifications and permits, especially fruit- and nut-bearing plants. Citrus plants, palms and bamboo plants are prohibited.

Please check with U.S. CBP Agriculture or with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before you purchase these items.

Plants in soil with certificates are allowed from most of Canada, but soil from Newfoundland, Alberta, Saint Amable in Quebec, and Central Saanich on Vancouver Island is prohibited without a USDA permit. Plants from these areas must be completely free of soil before CFIA will issue a Phytosanitary Certificate.

**CFIA (604)541-3366**

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## Seeds for Planting

A Phytosanitary Certificate, Seed Analysis Certificate, Seed Export Label or Import Permit is required to bring seeds for planting into the United States. Some seeds are prohibited from all countries, including Canada.

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## Cut Flowers & Greenery

**Cut Flowers and Greenery** must be inspected and found free of insects and diseases. Branches from fruit, nut, or pine trees, laurel, cotton, hibiscus and grape are prohibited.

**Fresh Cut Christmas Trees** from British Columbia or Alberta are allowed into Washington State with a written receipt or declaration of origin.

# U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

9901 PACIFIC HWY  
BLAINE, WA 98230

## **CUSTOMS & IMMIGRATION:**

PEACE ARCH (360)332-8511  
PACIFIC HIGHWAY (360)332-8661  
COMMERCIAL (360)332-5707

## **NEXUS OFFICE:**

(360)366-4342

**SUMAS CBP:** (360)988-2971

## **USDA VETERINARY SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 1049  
SUMAS, WA 98295  
**VET:** (360)988-5715

## **U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE**

(360)332-5388

### **IMPORTANT:**

When entering the United States, travelers must inform U.S. Border inspectors of all fruits, vegetables, plants, plant products, live animals, meats and animal products, regardless of whether they are allowed.

**Failure to declare may result in penalties  
(fines) of \$300 or more.**

**Failure to declare by NEXUS Members may  
result in a \$500 penalty and loss of  
NEXUS Membership**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is responsible for safeguarding agriculture by preventing the entry of exotic agricultural pests and diseases into the United States. These efforts keep our food prices low, reduce the use of pesticides and promote agricultural exports and trade.

The Department of Homeland Security prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information should contact the Officer on duty.

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