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PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS 1/

OF

JAMAICA, BRITISH WEST INDIES

BASIC LEGISLATION

"Cap. 350, The Protection from Disease (Plants) Law 1925", empowers the Governor to promulgate orders prohibiting or regulating the importation of plants, articles, or things likely to be the means of introducing or spreading plant disease in the Island.

Law 34 of 1939 (The Customs Law, 1939), Section 38, empowers the Governor to prohibit or regulate the importation of goods by proclamation. Section 39 of this law, which is subject to amendment by proclamation under Section 38, describes the goods the importation of which is prohibited.

SUMMARY

GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Shipments of fruits and vegetables (except onions, seeds, and dried products which require no certification) must be accompanied by a Federal phytosanitary certificate. (See paragraphs 3 and 7.)

Import permits must be obtained in advance for importations of bees, honey, cottonseed, plants and parts of plants (except seeds) for propagation, and agricultural tools. (See paragraphs 2, 5, and 8.)

IMPORTATION PROHIBITED

1. The importation of the following articles is prohibited by the laws cited:

- a. CITRUS CRATES used as containers for bottles or other merchandise. (Proclamation of December 18, 1939.)
- b. CITRUS (Citrus spp.) PLANTS, BUDS, OR GRAFTS, except by the Director of Agriculture. (Orders of June 18, 1925, and December 5, 1933. Cap. 350.)
- c. COFFEE (Coffea spp.) beans or ground coffee, roasted or unroasted, except roasted coffee by a permit from the Collector General. (Proclamation of December 18, 1941.)

1/ This summary omits certain import restrictions of Jamaica which are not applicable to importations of plants or plant products from the United States.

- d. COPRA. (Law 34 of 1939, Section 39 (xiv) August 7, 1939.)
- e. CORNMEAL. (Proclamation of August 15, 1939.)
- f. EARTH OR SOIL. (Proclamation of April 3, 1917.)

IMPORTATION CONDITIONALLY PROHIBITED

Bees and Honey

2. The importation of bees, honey, or beekeeper's stock is prohibited without a written permit from the Director of Agriculture. (Cap. 345, The Bees Importation, Protection and Transportation Law and Proclamation of March 12, 1942.)

Citrus Fruit

3. The importation is prohibited of citrus fruit (Citrus spp.) or any parts thereof, fresh or dried, except candied fruit or marmalade, canned citrus or citrus juice and also citrus fruit for the United States bases, imported from the United States of America and certified free from disease and as coming from an area free of citrus canker (Bacterium citri (Hasse) Doidge) or the Mediterranean fruitfly (Ceratitidis capitata (Wied.)). (Proclamation of August 21, 1941, as amended by Proclamation of August 11, 1942.)

Coconuts

4. The importation of unhusked coconuts (Cocos nucifera L.) is prohibited, except under a permit from the Director of Agriculture, on account of scale insects, including the coconut scale (Aspidiotus destructor Sign.). (Proclamation of May 21, 1945.)

Cotton

5. Importations of cottonseed (Gossypium spp.) or any part of the cotton plant are prohibited from any country except by permit from the Director of Agriculture and according to rules which prohibit any consignment of cottonseed over 1 ton and require imported seed to be treated against the boll weevil (Anthonomus grandis Boh.) in particular, as follows:

- a. All imported cottonseed shall be placed in the fumigation chamber immediately on landing and shall not be removed therefrom until it has been fumigated for a period of 1 hour with hydrocyanic acid gas at a concentration of 1 ounce of cyanide for every 300 cubic feet of space.

- b. All cottonseed before planting shall be immersed for not less than 3 minutes in concentrated sulfuric acid or treated with fungicide approved by the Director of Agriculture. (Proclamation No. 34 of June 15, 1942.)

Fodder or Litter

6. Importations of fodder or litter are prohibited, except from the United States of America, Canada, and Great Britain. A certificate of freedom from hoof and mouth disease is required with importations from Great Britain. (Order of September 19, 1942, as amended January 29, February 8, and April 3, 1943.)

Fruits and Vegetables

7. The importation of fruits and vegetables (except dried fruits and vegetables, seeds, and onions) is prohibited from all countries, except the United States of America, Canada, the Bahamas, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom, whence, however, such importations must be accompanied by a certificate of freedom from pests and diseases, and a certificate that the Mediterranean fruitfly (Ceratitidis capitata (Wied.)) and, in the case of potatoes for seed or consumption, potato wart (Synchytrium endobioticum (Schilb.) Perc.) do not exist in the country of origin. Importers of fruits and vegetables must give notice of arrival of shipments, the produce shall be subject to inspection, and if infected with pest or disease, may be treated to destroy such, or be destroyed. (Proclamation of January 13, 1934 as amended on January 22, 1936, and by a proclamation pending promulgation.) 2/

Plants and Tools

8. The importation of plants and tools from countries other than the United Kingdom are permitted entry only at the port of Kingston after a written permit has been granted by the Director of Agriculture previous to importation, the permit to take the form of a label, to be forwarded by the importer to the supplier, who must attach it to the package containing the plants, etc. These must be consigned to the Director of Agriculture and are subject to inspection on arrival, and to such fumigation and disinfection as may be considered necessary, and may be destroyed if necessary to prevent the spread of pests or diseases, without compensation. Any articles imported contrary to the above provisions may be destroyed by officers of the Customs or Post Office. (Order of June 4, 1929 under Cap. 350, as amended by the Order of April 26, 1930.)

2/ From information furnished by E. B. Martyn, Plant Pathologist of Jamaica, on November 26, 1945.



Seed Potatoes

9. Importations of seed potatoes (Solanum tuberosum L.) are prohibited from all countries, except by the Jamaica Agricultural Society and Marketing Department, on account of potato wart (Synchytrium endobioticum (Schilb.) Perc.) and late blight (Phytophthora infestans (Mont.) De By.)). (Proclamation and Order of February 10, 1939.)

Sisal Fiber

10. Importations of sisal fiber are prohibited from all countries, except under permit from the Collector General. (Law 34 of 1939, Section 39 (xxv), dated August 7, 1939, as amended by Proclamation dated August 21, 1941.)