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Information for Travelers From Hawaii to the U.S. Mainland, Alaska, or Guam

Last Modified:

Inspection Notice for Travelers Coming From Hawaii to the U.S. Mainland, Alaska, and Guam

- English (627.91 KB)
- French (638.97 KB)
- German (591.04 KB)
- Ilocano (556.07 KB)
- Japanese (624.64 KB)
- Korean (583.34 KB)
- Russian (586.83 KB)
- Simplified Chinese (623.67 KB)

- Spanish (585.67 KB)
- Traditional Chinese (614.3 KB)
- Thai (594.51 KB)
- Tagalog (581.22 KB)
- Vietnamese (562.51 KB)

- Chuukese (565.29 KB)
- Pohnpeian (314.58 KB)

Guidance for Mailing and Shipping Food and Agricultural Products From Hawaii to the U.S. Mainland

- English (474.8 KB)
- French (385.67 KB)
- German (395.44 KB)
- Ilocano (373.6 KB)
- Japanese (441.48 KB)
- Korean (358.61 KB)
- Russian (380.88 KB)

- Simplified Chinese (413.27 KB)
- Spanish (386.82 KB)
- Traditional Chinese (403.07 KB)
- Thai (440.09 KB)
- Tagalog (431.05 KB)
- Vietnamese (369.13 KB)

APHIS prohibits or restricts the movement of many agricultural products from Hawaii into the U.S. mainland, Alaska, and Guam. These include most fresh fruits and vegetables and certain plants, such as 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 lead to millions of dollars in damage to agriculture and the environment, expensive eradication efforts, lost trade revenue, and higher food prices.

What To Expect at the Airport

You must present all food, plants, and other agricultural items to the USDA inspector at the airport before you leave Hawaii. If your items are generally allowed, the inspector will examine them to make sure they are free from pests and disease before you begin your trip.

- Inspection Notice for Travelers Coming From Hawaii to the U.S. Mainland, Alaska, and Guam
- Guidance for Mailing and Shipping Food and Agricultural Products From Hawaii to the U.S. Mainland

Hear more about the process to check for and inspect agricultural items:

Agricultural Items From Hawaii NOT ALLOWED into the U.S. Mainland or Alaska

Expand All

Fruits, Vegetables, and Herbs

- Fresh fruits and vegetables (see exceptions listed below)
- Berries of any kind, including fresh coffee berries and sea grapes
- Kikania and fresh pandanus
- Swamp cabbage (unchoy)

Cut Flowers

- Cotton and cotton bolls
- Fresh flowers of jade vine, and Mauna Loa

Plants and Seeds for Planting

- Any plants in soil
- Cactus plants or cactus plant parts
- Mock orange
- Seeds with fruit clinging and fresh seed pods
- Sugarcane

Organisms

- Live insects and snails

Miscellaneous

- Soil

Agricultural Items From Hawaii ALLOWED into the U.S. Mainland, Alaska, and Guam (after passing USDA inspection)

Expand All

Fruits, Vegetables, and Herbs

- Coconut
- Coffee
  - Travelers are permitted to bring unlimited quantities of roasted coffee or green (unroasted) coffee beans without restriction through any continental U.S. port of entry.
- Commercially canned or processed foods, including processed fruits and vegetables
  - Accepted processing methods include cooking, drying, or freezing. If freezing, all fruits must be frozen solid at the time of inspection. Frozen mango must be without seeds.
- Fresh pineapple
- Irish or white potatoes
- Treated fruit, such as papaya, abiu, atemoya, banana, curry leaf, dragon fruit, longan, lychee, mangosteen, rambutan, starfruit, and sweet potato
  - These fruits must be treated at a USDA-approved facility and packed in sealed boxes that are properly marked and stamped.

Cut Flowers

- Fresh flowers, leis, and foliage, except jade vine or Mauna Loa or any citrus or citrus-related plants and plant parts in the same family including flowers and leaves.

    - For more information on bringing leis into the U.S. mainland, please read Know the Lei of the Land: How To Make Sure Your Leis Can Come Back to the U.S. Mainland (759.82 KB).

Plants and Seeds for Planting

- Certain plants and cuttings
    - Some States may require rooted plants to be certified by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture before they may be moved to the U.S. mainland. Please contact the Hawaii Department of Agriculture for more information. Contact numbers are provided at the bottom of this page.
- Hinahina (Spanish moss)

Miscellaneous

- Beach sand
- Dried seeds and decorative arrangements
- Rocks and stones
- Seashells, not land snail shells
- Seed leis and seed jewelry
- Wood (including driftwood and sticks) and wood roses (dried)

Additional Agricultural Items From Hawaii ALLOWED into Guam or Alaska (after passing USDA inspection)

Expand All

Guam

The following additional items from Hawaii are allowed into Guam after passing USDA inspection:

- Beets
- Rutabagas
- Turnips (without tops)

Alaska

The following additional items from Hawaii are allowed into Alaska* after passing USDA inspection:

- Chayote
- Green banana
- Green onion
- Lima bean
- Okra
- Pea
- Pumpkin
- Snow pea
- String bean
- Watermelon
- Winged bean
- Winter melon
- Yard long bean
- Zucchini

* Distribution of these items from Alaska to the contiguous United States is prohibited.

Need More Information?

The information provided on this page is subject to change without notice. For the most up-to-date information, contact your local APHIS office. For information on how to certify plants and cuttings, call your local Hawaii Department of Agriculture office.

APHIS Offices (for general questions)

Hilo: 808-933-6930
Honolulu: 808-834-3220
Kauai: 808-632-2511
Kona: 808-326-1252
Maui: 808-877-5261

Hawaii Department of Agriculture Offices (for certifying plants and cuttings)

Hilo: 808-974-4141
Honolulu: 808-832-0566
Kauai: 808-241-7135
Kona: 808-326-1077
Maui: 808-872-3848

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