

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2025-15

April 4, 2025

Subject: APHIS Updates Import Requirements for Fresh Avocado Fruit (*Persea americana* var. Hass) from Guatemala into the United States

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is updating requirements for importation of fresh avocado fruit (*Persea americana* var. Hass) from Guatemala to address the stem weevil *Copturus aguacatae*. APHIS has determined this quarantine pest may follow the pathway of avocado fruit for consumption and confirmed its presence in Guatemala. To address this pest risk, APHIS is issuing this Federal Order.

To be eligible to export fruit to the United States, the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Guatemala must adhere to an operational workplan (OWP) jointly developed with APHIS which details the activities and responsibilities the NPPO of Guatemala will carry out to meet the systems approach requirements for fresh avocado fruit (*Persea americana* var. Hass) to address pests of concern, including *Copturus aguacatae*. In addition to meeting the requirements listed in our [Agricultural Commodity Import Requirements](#) (ACIR) database, the NPPO of Guatemala will establish and maintain pest-free places of production with a pest survey and control program for *Copturus aguacatae*, in addition to previously listed pests to prevent their accidental introduction into the United States. Detection of *Copturus aguacatae* or any pest of concern during export inspection or phytosanitary certification in Guatemala will result in regulatory action. This Federal Order updates the list of quarantine pests to include *Copturus aguacatae*, all of which must be addressed by the systems approach and included in the OWP.

For additional information regarding this Federal Order, please contact Regulatory Policy Specialist Esther Serrano at esther.s.serrano@usda.gov or 954-699-4504.



Dr. Mark L Davidson
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Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

**United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine**

FEDERAL ORDER

**APHIS Updates Import Requirements for Fresh Avocado Fruit
(*Persea americana* var. Hass) from Guatemala into the United States**

DA-2025-15
April 4, 2025

APHIS is issuing Federal Order DA-2025-15 pursuant to the authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000. As amended, [Section 412\(a\), 7 U.S.C. 7712\(a\)](#), authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction into the United States or the dissemination of a plant pest or noxious weed within the United States.

APHIS has determined the quarantine pest *Copturus aguacatae* (stem weevil) is present in Guatemala and may follow the avocado fruit for consumption pathway. This pest is not known to occur in the United States and poses a threat to domestic avocado production. *Copturus aguacatae*, also referred to as *Macrocopturus aguacatae*, is a weevil that is known to attack the stem and branches of avocado trees.

Effective upon the publication of this Federal Order, and prior to any importation of avocado fruit from Guatemala, the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Guatemala must work with APHIS to include *Copturus aguacatae* as a quarantine pest of concern that must be addressed in the systems approach and operational work plan which is necessary to allow importation of fresh Hass avocados from Guatemala into the United States. The NPPO of Guatemala will establish and maintain pest-free places of production with a pest survey and control program for *Copturus aguacatae* in addition to previously listed pests to prevent their introduction into the United States. Detection of *Copturus aguacatae* or any pest of concern during export inspection or phytosanitary certification in Guatemala will result in regulatory action.

The NPPO of Guatemala must agree to carry out the activities, requirements and responsibilities detailed in the Operational Work Plan (OWP) and as listed in this Federal Order and in the [Agricultural Commodity Import Requirements](#) (ACIR) database. APHIS will be directly involved with the NPPO of Guatemala in monitoring and auditing required risk mitigation measures and the OWP will include a requirement for a cooperative service agreement to reimburse APHIS for the cost of conducting program audits or site visits.

APHIS has determined the phytosanitary import requirements for fresh Hass avocado from Guatemala found in ACIR will adequately mitigate the risk of introduction of avocado pests via this commodity pathway, including the stem weevil *Copturus aguacatae*.

For additional information regarding this Federal Order, please contact Regulatory Policy Specialist Esther Serrano at esther.s.serrano@usda.gov or 954-699-4504.