

**TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**PLANT HEALTH UNIT**  
**Tel: (649) 941-5068, 5327**  
**Fax: (649) 941-3179, 946-2411**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**

Condition for Importation

A written application must be submitted to the Environmental Health Department at the following addresses;

1. Environmental Health Department, Butterfield Square, Down Town Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies;
2. Environmental Health Department, Dunscombe Alley, Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

Contact numbers are as follows:

Providenciales: (649) 941-5327, (649) 941-5068

Grand Turk: (649) 946-2801

A Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the importing country's agriculture department must accompany applications.

All imported fruits and vegetables, as a condition of entry, would be subjected to inspection, disinfection, or both, at the port of first arrival as may be required by the Plant Health or any authorized officer, to detect and eliminate plant pests.

In addition, some of the fruits and vegetables would be required to meet other special conditions, as indicated below.

A shipment of fruits and /vegetables may be refused entry into the Turks and Caicos Islands if the shipment is infested with fruit flies or other injurious plant pests and the inspector determines that it cannot be cleaned by disinfection or treatment.

The conditions of entry are necessary to prevent the introduction of and dissemination of fruit flies and other injurious plant pests and plant diseases by the importation of fruits and vegetables from certain foreign countries into the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Application/s must consist of the following information:

- i. Common and Scientific names of product
- ii. Country of Origin of product
- iii. Name of Farm where produced
- iv. Quantity of products (lbs/Kg)
- v. Date of harvested and processed
- vi. Type of preservatives and growth hormones used
- vii. Ratio of preservatives and growth hormones used
- viii. Date of shipment
- ix. Means of transport and name of carrier
- x. Temperature during transport

### Product Quality Requirements

All products for export to the Turks and Caicos Islands must have the following qualities and or characteristics:

All produce must be properly packaged in suitably labeled containers, which protect the products from external or internal damage.

- i. Each container must consist of products of similar varietal characteristics which are mature but not overripe, well formed, clean, well colored, well trimmed and which are free from decay, anthracnose, and freezing injury and are free from damage caused by bruises, cuts or other skin breaks, pulled stems, russeting or similar discoloration, scars or scab, sunburn, sunscald or sprayburn, cercospora spot, other disease, insects, or mechanical or other means.
- ii. Fruits and Vegetables shall be packed in accordance with good commercial practice and the pack shall be at least fairly tight. The weight of the smallest fruit or whole vegetable in any container shall be not less than 75 percent of the weight of the largest fruit in the container. Size of the product may be specified by count.
- iii. Fruits and vegetables must be thoroughly washed and sanitized to remove all soils, debris, and organisms. The Plant Health Officer will deny the entry of fruits and vegetable with visible evidence of contamination or presence of foreign matter.