



15 April 2016

(16-2138)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Notifying Member: <u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Fresh pitahaya fruit
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries: Ecuador
5.	Title of the notified document: Proposed Rule: Importation of Fresh Pitahaya Fruit from Ecuador Into the Continental United States (Docket # APHIS-2015-0004) Language(s): English Number of pages: 5 https://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2015-0004-0001
6.	Description of content: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is proposing to amend the fruits and vegetables regulations to allow the importation of fresh pitahaya fruit into the continental United States from Ecuador. As a condition of entry, the fruit would have to be produced in accordance with a systems approach that would include requirements for fruit fly trapping, pre-harvest inspections, approved production sites, and packinghouse procedures designed to exclude quarantine pests. The fruit would also be required to be imported in commercial consignments and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization of Ecuador stating that the consignment was produced and prepared for export in accordance with the requirements of the systems approach. This action would allow for the importation of fresh pitahaya from Ecuador while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of plant pests into the United States. Federal Register/Vol. 81, No. 68/Friday, 8 April 2016/pgs.20575-20579.
7.	Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
8.	Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text) <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number) <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None

<p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>	
9.	Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:
10.	<p>Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable</p>
11.	<p>Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
12.	<p>Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 7 June 2016</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>You may submit comments by either of the following methods:</p> <p>Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2015-0004.</p> <p>Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2015-0004, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.</p> <p>Ms Claudia Ferguson, M.S., Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, Regulatory Coordination and Compliance, Imports, Regulations and Manuals, PPQ, APHIS, +(301) 851 2352; E-mail: Claudia.Ferguson@aphis.usda.gov</p> <p>Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2015-0004.</p>
13.	<p>Text(s) available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>United States SPS National Notification Authority, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, International Regulations and Standards Division (IRSD), Stop 1014, Washington D.C. 20250; Tel: +(1 202) 720 1301; Fax: +(1 202) 720 0433; E-mail: us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov</p>