

DON'T PACK  **A PEST**



**GUIDELINES FOR
TRAVELERS**

WHAT IS **DON'T PACK A PEST** AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The “Don’t Pack a Pest!” program helps to educate international travelers about the risks associated with bringing certain types of food, plants, and agricultural items in passenger luggage and care packages into the United States.

If you are not careful, you might unknowingly help animal diseases and plant pests hitchhike on items you travel with or ship. These diseases and pests can potentially harm crops, forests, animals, and the environment.

When packing for international travels, learn what food, plant, and animal items are prohibited. It takes only one person to spread harmful invasive pests. Help protect our food supply and natural resources!

SAFE AND HAPPY TRAVELS!

For example, some seemingly harmless items such as dried soup mixes (including ramen noodles) that contain meat are generally prohibited. Continue on for more travel tips and other examples of prohibited items.



HOW TO DECLARE

Declare: Tell U.S. Customs and Border Protection what food, plant, and animal items you have.



Use the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Declaration Form (6059B) or Mobile Passport App



If eligible, use a self-service electronic kiosk after you get off the plane



Tell a U.S. Customs and Border Protection official before inspection if you are carrying any food or agricultural products in your bags or on your person

When you declare, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection official can check your items. This is the only way to be certain that your items are free of plant pests and animal diseases.

Trained agriculture dogs help sniff out plants and animals in luggage and carry-on items from international flights.



ALERT!



Not declaring agricultural items can result in a penalty of up to \$1,000 per first time offense and more for the second offense.

REMEMBER: DECLARE!



You will not be penalized if you declare



EXAMPLES OF GENERALLY PROHIBITED ITEMS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture restricts or prohibits many food and agricultural products from other countries because they could carry harmful invasive plant pests or animal diseases (such as highly pathogenic avian influenza or foot-and-mouth disease) into the United States.

When packing for international travels, it is important to know which items are prohibited.

These guidelines are just examples of generally prohibited agricultural products. When in doubt, remember these three tips:

- Do not pack fresh fruits and vegetables
- Do not pack meat products
- Always declare all food, plants, and agricultural items when you arrive in the United States



PLANTS AND SEEDS

may require a phytosanitary certificate or permit



WOOD

wood products and handicrafts



NATURAL MEDICINES

dietary and nutritional supplements containing animal ingredients



RAW EGGS

and products that contain raw eggs



DRIED SOUP MIXES

and bouillon that contain meat or poultry



DAIRY PRODUCTS

except hard cheese



FRUITS AND VEGETABLES



MEATS



SOIL

EXAMPLE PESTS



FRUIT FLY

The eggs and larvae of highly invasive plant pests such as the Mediterranean fruit fly can hide inside fruits and vegetables.



actual size: 3.5–5 mm



KHAPRA BEETLE

Khapra beetle is a destructive pest of stored grains and seeds. Rice, soybeans, and safflower seeds are prohibited from countries where the beetle occurs.



actual size: 1–3 mm

PACKING TIPS



Before you pack, learn whether your items are prohibited



Remember, many items do not need to be packed because they are available at stores in the United States





To find out what you can pack, visit:
www.dontpackapest.com/Travel-Guidelines

DISCLAIMER

U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations are subject to change at any time and they can change quickly in response to pest or disease outbreaks that occur in other countries.

This brochure was produced in partnership with

