

## ROLE & FUNCTION

The basic purpose of the Plant Quarantine /Produce Inspection (PQ/PI) Branch is to:

1. Protect Jamaica from the introduction of harmful plant pests and diseases.
2. Ensure that only the highest quality, pest free produce is imported into and exported from Jamaica.

## LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The laws governing the activities of the PQ/PI Branch are:

1. The Plant Quarantine Act, 1993 and its regulations
2. The Agriculture Produce Act, 1926 and its regulations

### QUICK TIPS

Two major documents required for the importation of produce into Jamaica are;

1. An import permit.
2. A phytosanitary certificate.

### **What is an Import Permit (IP)?**

It is a document issued by PQ/PI Branch authorizing the importation of agricultural commodities. It further

outlines the conditions that are necessary for importation and should therefore be sent to the supplier before ordering, for use by the inspectorate of the exporting country, prior to shipping.

### **What is a Phytosanitary Certificate?**

This is a document issued by the competent authority of the exporting country. It certifies that the shipment has been inspected and found to be free of harmful pests and diseases. It further certifies any special condition required by the importing country as stated on the Import Permit.

### **What category of produce requires an IP?**

An Import Permit is required for the importation of ALL fresh fruits and vegetables, plant parts and seeds.

### **What are some agricultural items that do not require an IP?**

1. Frozen/canned/dried fruits and vegetables
2. Shredded vegetables
3. Processed material in general.

### **Are there any restrictions on what can be imported?**

**Yes.** If the importation of the commodity poses a threat to Jamaica's agriculture, then that item will not be allowed. A Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) is conducted to assess the phytosanitary risk associated with the commodity.

## PLANT QUARANTINE OFFICES

### **Main Office**

193 Old Hope Road  
Kingston 6, Jamaica  
**Tel:** (876) 977-0637/6401  
**Fax:** (876) 977-6992  
**Website:** [www.moa.gov.jm](http://www.moa.gov.jm)  
**Email:** [ppq@moa.gov.jm](mailto:ppq@moa.gov.jm)

### **Norman Manley International Airport Office**

**Agricultural Export Complex**  
Norman Manley International Airport  
Kingston, Jamaica  
**Tel:** (876) 924-8906/8865  
**Fax:** (876) 924-8907  
**Email:** [pqkingston@moa.gov.jm](mailto:pqkingston@moa.gov.jm)

### **Sangster International Airport Office**

**Agricultural Export Complex**  
Sangster International Airport  
Montego Bay  
St. James, Jamaica  
**Tel:** (876) 940-4146  
**Fax:** (876) 940-1038  
**Email:** [pqmobay@moa.gov.jm](mailto:pqmobay@moa.gov.jm)

# IMPORT PERMIT AND INSPECTION PROCEDURE

## Import Permit

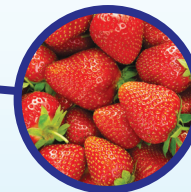
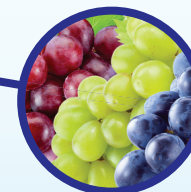
- Apply for Import Permit online @[jswift.gov.jm](http://jswift.gov.jm)
- Pay Import Permit Fee online using a credit card.
- Permit will be ready within two (2) working days.
- Print finalized (approved permit and submit to supplier)

## Import Inspection

- Apply for Import Inspection using prescribed form.
- Pay Inspection Fee at MOAF&M cashier or online @[jswift.gov.jm](http://jswift.gov.jm)
- Retain receipt
- Call Plant Quarantine Inspectorate to confirm inspection, minimum of 24 hours notice required.

## Documents needed for inspection

- Import Permit (original)
- Phytosanitary Certificate (original)
- Invoice (copy)
- Receipt (original)
- Import Entry



## COST OF SERVICES

### Import Permit

1–10,000 kgs	\$1,500.00
10,001–25,000 kgs	\$3,000.00
Over 25,000 kgs	\$4,500.00

### Import Inspection

1–10,000 kgs	\$5,000/container
10,001–25,000 kgs	\$8,000/container
Over 25,000 kgs	\$15,000/container

# THE IMPORT PROCESS



Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Mining  
PLANT QUARANTINE/PRODUCE INSPECTION BRANCH

