

Control of Plants (Plant Importation) Rules

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CONTROL OF PLANTS ACT
(CHAPTER 57A, SECTION 48)

CONTROL OF PLANTS
(PLANT IMPORTATION) RULES

R 4

G.N. No. S 29/1994

REVISED EDITION 2000

(31st January 2000)

[18th February 1994]

Citation

1. These Rules may be cited as the Control of Plants (Plant Importation) Rules.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“American tropics” means those parts of the continent of America, including the islands adjacent thereto, which are bounded by the Tropic of Capricorn (latitude 23° S) and the Tropic of Cancer (latitude 23° N) and by Longitudes 30° W and 120° W and includes that part of Mexico which is north of the Tropic of Cancer;

“consignment of plants or plant products” includes any container, receptacle, packaging material or other article forming part of such a consignment;

“soil” does not include clean sand, peat or rock;

“transit” means to be taken or sent from any country and brought into Singapore for the sole purpose of being carried to another country by the same or another conveyance within any free trade zone.

(2) For the purpose of these Rules, any reference to the importation or movement of any of the pests, plants, plant products and other materials specified in the First, Second, Third and Fourth Schedules shall be read as including a reference to the importation and movement of such pests, plants, plant products or other materials by post.

Persons to whom Rules do not apply

3. Subject to rules 12, 13 and 14, these Rules shall not apply —

- (a) to any person who, with the written permission of the Director and subject to such conditions as the Director may think fit to impose, imports any plant, plant product or soil for experimental or research purposes;
- (b) to any person who imports any plant or plant product from Peninsula Malaysia; or
- (c) to any person who brings any of the plants, plant products and other materials specified in the Second, Third and Fourth Schedules into Singapore in transit, subject to the condition that such plants, plant products or other materials shall not be moved from the point of entry into Singapore to any other place within Singapore except with the permission in writing of the Director or an authorised officer authorised by him and in accordance with such terms and conditions as the Director or the authorised officer may think fit to impose.

Importation of pest or beneficial organisms

4.—(1) No person shall import any pest or beneficial organism for the control of pests

except under a permit issued by the Director.

(2) Every permit issued under this rule shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Director may think fit to impose, which terms and conditions shall be endorsed on the import permit.

(3) Every permit issued under this rule shall be valid for the period specified therein.

(4) Every permit issued under this rule shall be valid only for the consignment in respect of which it has been issued.

Imported plants to be free of pests

5. Any person who imports any plant or plant product shall ensure that such plant or plant product and the container or package thereof is free of the pests specified in the First Schedule.

No person to import soil or plants specified in Second Schedule

6. No person shall import any soil or any of the plants specified in the first column of the Second Schedule from the countries of origin specified in the second column of that Schedule.

Importation of plants specified in Third Schedule

7.—(1) No person shall import any of the plants, plant products and other materials specified in the first column of the Third Schedule from the countries of origin specified in the second column of that Schedule except under a permit issued by the Director.

(2) Every permit issued under this rule shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Director may think fit to impose, which terms and conditions shall be endorsed on the permit.

(3) Every permit issued under this rule shall be valid for a period of 3 months from the date of issue.

(4) Every permit issued under this rule shall be valid only for the consignment in respect of which it has been issued.

(5) Every consignment of imported plants or plant products shall be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate or a similar official statement issued not more than 14 days prior to the date of shipment of the consignment by a competent government agency or some other agricultural authority in the country of export which is recognised by the Director.

(6) The phytosanitary certificate or official statement required under paragraph (5) shall, subject to paragraph (7), certify whether every condition (if any) endorsed on the

import permit has been complied with.

(7) Where it is not possible to obtain the certification required under paragraph (6), or if the plants or plant products are being carried personally by an in-coming traveller for his own use, the Director may, in his discretion, permit the plants or plant products to enter Singapore subject to such terms and conditions as he may think fit to impose.

Application and fee for permits

8. Every application for the issue of a permit under rule 4 or 7 shall be made to the Director in such form as the Director may require and shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee specified in the Fifth Schedule.

Cancellation of permits

9. Any permit issued under rule 4 or 7 may be cancelled if the person to whom it was issued is in breach of any of the terms and conditions endorsed on the permit or of these Rules.

Variation of terms and conditions of permits

10. The Director may —

- (a) having regard to the status of the pests or beneficial organisms for the control of pests or the plants, plant products or other materials in respect of the import of which a permit has been issued under rule 4 or 7, as the case may be; and
- (b) in accordance with the provisions of any international agreement or memorandum of understanding pertaining to the international movements of such pests or beneficial organisms or plants, plant products or other materials,

from time to time and in such manner as he thinks fit vary the terms and conditions subject to which the permit has been issued.

Phytosanitary certificates

11.—(1) No person shall import any of the plants or other materials specified in the Fourth Schedule unless the consignment of such plants or other materials is accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued not more than 14 days prior to the date of shipment of the consignment by a competent government agency or some other agricultural authority in the country of export which is recognised by the Director.

(2) Where the consignment is not accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate or if the plants or other materials are being personally carried by an in-coming traveller for his