

Refer to CBP Agriculture Specialist:

Animal and Animal Products:

- Animal by-products, i.e., hides, trophies, or casings
- Biologicals, i.e., cell cultures, bacteria, or viruses
- Cages that held birds or animals
- Feeds and pet food
- Game animals and birds
- Semen containers

Plants and Plant Products:

- Cut flowers and greenery
- Nursery stock including live plants, seeds, bulbs, or cuttings
- Nuts contained in the husk or inside a fruit
- Unprocessed cotton, i.e., samples, lint, bolls, or seeds

Live Organisms and Cultures:

- Live insects, snails, mites, ticks, or cultures of micro-organisms

Miscellaneous:

- Any questionable items or products found infested
- Beehives and beekeeping equipment
- Burlap sacks
- Commercial quantities of agricultural products
- Garbage, grass, manure, straw, or soil
- Items for which only a CBP Agriculture Specialist or PPQ has the authority to grant clearance
- Product(s) originating from central Mexico or farther south
- Undeclared or smuggled agricultural products
- Vehicles with hay, straw, soil, manure, used animal bedding, or garbage

Please determine and report the origin and destination of items you seize or hold. Mark items "Held for inspection." Include your name and, if possible, the owner's name, address, and phone number.

7 CFR Foreign Plant Quarantines

9 CFR Foreign Animal Quarantines

50 CFR Taking, Possession, Transportation, Sale, Purchase, Barter, Exportation, and Importation of Wildlife and Plants

SAFEGUARD:

Dispose of all foreign food stores and seized agricultural items by incineration or steam sterilization.

Contact CBP Agriculture Specialist for specific procedures for disposal for foreign stores and garbage.

Nearest CBPAS Office:

CBPAS Office Phone Number:



**A Job Aid for Taking
Agricultural Action by
Mexican Border
Customs & Border
Protection Officers**

**Provided by:
United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
*Plant Protection and Quarantine***

Revised July 2012

**A Job Aid for Taking Action on
Noncommercial Meat and Animal Products from Mexico**

| If it is ¹ : | And is: | And is: | Then: |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Beef, goat, or sheep | | → | RELEASE |
| Dairy products (wholly dairy) | Cow, ewe, goat (ruminants) | → | |
| Deer | | → | CONTACT the nearest FWS office |
| Fish | | → | RELEASE |
| Pork | | → | PROCEED to next table |
| Poultry including eggs or egg products | Thoroughly cooked ² or Shelf stable ³ | → | RELEASE |
| | Hunter-harvested trophies in passenger baggage, fully finished | → | |
| | Hunter-harvested trophies in passenger baggage, not fully finished | Accompanied by a VS permit Lacks a VS permit | |
| | Not as described above | → | |
| Whole egg shells ⁴ | Egg white and yolk removed ⁵ | Clean and dry | RELEASE |
| | | Not clean and dry | REFER/SEIZE |
| | Not as described above | → | REFER/SEIZE |

- There may be exceptions specific to your port—check with the CBP Agriculture Specialist and if there is **any** question as to how to regulate an animal product, contact the CBP Agriculture Specialist for guidance.
- If product is cooked, perishable poultry meat or meat products, or is, or contains, cooked, perishable eggs or egg products, the product is enterable in passenger baggage if, upon visual inspection, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials confirm the poultry meat and poultry meat product or eggs or egg products appear "thoroughly cooked" throughout. If **not** appearing "thoroughly cooked," REFER to a CBP Agriculture Specialist or SEIZE.
- Shelf stable as a result of APHIS-approved packaging and cooking (i.e., packaged in hermetically sealed containers and cooked by a commercial method after such packing to produce shelf-stable articles without refrigeration).
- Quantity of egg shells is 10 egg shells **or less** per passenger. REFER egg shells **exceeding** 10 per passenger to a CBP Agriculture Specialist.
- Egg white and egg yolk have been removed. May be decorated, etched, or painted. May contain confetti, toys, or other unregulated items (e.g., cascazones, chocolate filled, etc.).

**A Job Aid for Taking Action on
Noncommercial Pork from Mexico**

| If: | And is from: | And: | And in: | Then: |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--------------|
| Canned, shelf stable | | | → | RELEASE |
| Chicharrones (pork skins or rinds) | Baja California, Baja California Sur, Campeche, Chihuahua, Nayarit, Quintana Roo, Sinaloa, Sonora, or Yucatan | Are thoroughly cooked to crispness and break easily when bent | → | REFER/ SEIZE |
| | | Do not appear to have been thoroughly cooked as evidence by not breaking easily when bent | → | |
| | A State other than listed above | Is appropriately certified ^{1,2} | → | RELEASE |
| | | Lacks certification ^{1,2} | → | REFER/ SEIZE |
| Cooked | → | Thoroughly cooked throughout ³ | A small quantity (one meal for one person) | RELEASE |
| | | Not thoroughly cooked throughout | → | |
| Dried, fresh, or uncooked | → | | More than one meal for one person | REFER/ SEIZE |
| | | | → | |

1. A meat inspection certificate prescribed in 9 CFR 327.4 and additional certification (placed on a foreign meat inspection certificate or contained in a separate document) that states:
 - The pork skins were cooked in oil for at least 80 minutes when oil temperature was consistently maintained at a minimum temperature of 114° C
2. A meat inspection certificate prescribed in 9 CFR 327.4 and additional certification (placed on a foreign meat inspection certificate or contained in a separate document) that states:
 - The pork skins were dry-cooked at a minimum temperature of 260° C for approximately 210 minutes, after which the pork skins were cooked in hot oil (deep fried) at a minimum temperature of 104° C for an additional 150 minutes
3. For example, carnitas, cooked meat in sandwiches, empanadas, tamales, and tacos.

**A Job Aid for Taking Action on
Noncommercial Produce from Mexico**

| If it is a: | And is: | Then: |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------|
| A fruit, vegetable, or herb | Fresh or fresh frozen | REFER/SEIZE |
| | Cooked, commercially canned, or dried ¹ | RELEASE |
| Nuts ² free of their husk | → | |

1. Except for Szechwan peppercorns (a citrus relative), dried citrus is prohibited. Szechwan peppercorns **are** admissible.
2. Nuts include acorn, almond, betel nut, Brazil nut, breadnut, buartnut, butter-nut, cashew, chestnut, coconut, filbert, hazel nut, heartnut, hickory nut, macadamia nut, peanut, pecan, piñon nut, pistachio, and walnut.