

## Agencies

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) determine the admissibility of various food products imported into the United States.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) is responsible for food products derived from wildlife. CBP enforces those requirements.

All commercial imports of food and beverage products require the filing of Prior Notice (PN) with FDA and, if the products contain meat, egg, milk, poultry, or other animal origin products, may require permits, health certificates, and/or other specified certifications from the country of origin.

## Requirements

Foreign manufacturers and/or distributors of food products must register with the FDA before their goods may be admitted.

CBP will not release food shipments without proof that PN has been filed with FDA. Therefore, it is imperative that the PN satisfied number is submitted to CBP along with the entry documents. The PN satisfied number should be **annotated on the shipping documents** (i.e. bill of lading or airway bill).

In addition to the prior notice requirement, once the goods arrive in the U.S., FDA may collect a sample or tell CBP to proceed with releasing the shipment. If a sample is in violation of FDA regulations, you will receive a **Notice of Detention** from FDA.

## Steps

1. Secure a source of mangoes
2. Follow Pakistan's export procedures
3. Speak with CBP Import Specialist to determine importation regulations and documents required
4. Register with FDA
5. (Advised) Hire a customs broker to fill out import forms
6. Secure transportation to pick up mangoes from port

## FDA Standards

"Importers can import foods into the United States without prior sanction by FDA, as long as the facilities that produce, store, or otherwise handle the products **are registered with FDA**, and **prior notice of incoming shipments** is provided to FDA. Imported food products are subject to FDA inspection when offered for import at U.S. ports of entry. FDA may detain shipments of products offered for import if the shipments are found not to follow U.S. requirements. **Both imported and domestically-produced foods must meet the same legal requirements in the United States.**"

## CBP Standards

"If you are interested in importing food for commercial purposes, you may want **to consult with a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Import Specialist at the U.S. port of entry** through which you intend to import. The Import Specialist can let you know what is required, which varies depending on the type of food, the country of origin of the food, as well as whether there are quota or other restrictions on what you want to import.

"As a trader, you have the option of hiring a Customs Broker to file your entry with CBP, or you can do it yourself - although there are so many details to handle when importing food items into USA, we strongly advise using a broker. To obtain a list of licensed Customs Brokers: (1.) Please go to [CBP.gov](http://CBP.gov) (2.) Enter "find a broker" in the search box. (3.) Click on "Locate a Port of Entry" (4.) Click on the "State" (5.) Click on the "Port Name" (6.) Scroll down to "Brokers""

## Contacts

Here is the Import Specialist Information mentioned by the CBP you would need to contact to discuss requirements for import through the **Port of Houston**. If you are using another port of entry, you will of course need to find their information or let me know and I may find it for you.

### Import Specialist Branch 1:

- Machinery: [CEE-Machinery@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:CEE-Machinery@cbp.dhs.gov)
- Pharmaceutical, Health & Chemicals: [CEE-Pharmaceuticals@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:CEE-Pharmaceuticals@cbp.dhs.gov)
- Agriculture & Prepared Products: [CEE-Agriculture@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:CEE-Agriculture@cbp.dhs.gov)

Email Address: [HOU-BRANCH1@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:HOU-BRANCH1@cbp.dhs.gov)

Phone: (281) 985-6700, option 5#, then 4 | Fax: (281) 985-6824

Pls also read the information available on import of mangoes into USA on Embassy of Pakistan's website: <http://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/trade-policy.pdf>