

Customs Bulletin



NORTH AMERICA'S RAILROAD

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Reminder to all customers shipping plants and plant products to the U.S.

As previously communicated in our Customs Bulletin 29 - December 2008, the U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced an amendment to the Lacey Act, part of the 2008 Farm Bill (also known as the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008), the enforcement of which will be phased in **beginning April 2009**.

Under the amended Lacey Act, importers for shipments to the U.S. are required to submit a declaration for certain plants and plant products, and for items that contain or are manufactured from plant products. The declaration will be required at the time of importation, that is, at the time that the broker processes the entry documents with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

The import declaration must include, among other information:

- Scientific name of the plant
- Value of the importation
- Quantity of the plant
- Name of the country from which the plant was harvested

The USDA has published the details of their phase-in schedule of enforcement of the declaration requirement for goods of, or containing, plant or plant products. For full information, please visit:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-2232.pdf>

CN encourages shippers and U.S. importers to review the emerging requirements with their customs brokers in order to ensure compliance with any APHIS and CBP policy on this matter.

Details on the revision of the Lacey Act, including Q & A, can be found on the USDA APHIS website:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/lacey_act/index.shtml

CN will continue to monitor this initiative and will provide updated information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Customs & eBusiness assistance:

CN Transborder Group: 1-800-267-9779

CN eBusiness: 1-800-361-0198

For more information: www.cn.ca/customs