



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

Guam's First Line of Defense | Protecting Our Island, Our People, and Our Resources

Director's Office

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Customs Officers Enhance Competence on Agricultural Import Requirements

BARRIGADA, Guam – Officers across the Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) completed the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Commodity Import Requirements (ACIR) training from May through early June.

Guam Customs officers enforce both local and federal laws and regulations, which include those governing the importation of safe agricultural products into Guam.

The ACIR provides guidance specific to plants and plant products, wood products and byproducts, soil and soil constituents, rocks, treatments, and pest organisms. The training both formalized and reinforced officers' knowledge base crucial to making compliant determinations and dispositions when screening such commodities for entry into the island.

The two-day training sessions also provided officers a refresher on federal import permits and use of the Veterinarian Services Permitting Assistant.

“With Guam being a small island community with precious, yet limited, natural resources, we are vulnerable to the biosecurity threats of pests, invasive species, plant and animal diseases, and even communicable diseases harbored by certain agricultural commodities,” said CQA Director Ike Peredo. “Completion of this training reaffirms our officers' capability and readiness to identify and manage such harms met at our borders, and our commitment to the safety and healthy quality of life of Guam's people and visitors alike. We'd like to thank the USDA for their continued support and partnership in this responsibility of ours.”

The agricultural importation guidelines for Guam can be viewed in the ACIR manual at <https://acir.aphis.usda.gov/s/>.

Members of the community are highly encouraged to report smuggling, which includes that of agricultural products, to (671) 642-8071/2.

CQA officers screen passengers, cargo, and conveyances at Guam's borders and ports of entry to interdict drugs, contraband, criminals, and biosecurity threats in their legitimate facilitation of trade, commerce, and travel.

For more information, contact CQA Public Information Officer Alana Chargualaf-Afaisen at alana.c.afaisen@cqa.guam.gov or 671-971-1408.

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