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MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 145
Series of 2005

**SUBJECT: PROTOCOL FOR THE EXPORT OF FRESH PINEAPPLE
TO AUSTRALIA**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree 1433 and the Philippines' obligation under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to meet the importing countries' requirements, this protocol is being issued to all concerned.

Registration of Pineapple Farms/Plantations

As stated in the Final Import Risk analysis issued by Australia, all fresh pineapple exporters shall register their farms/plantations to BPI-Plant Quarantine Service (BPI-PQS) with the following requirements:

A. Pineapple Producer-Exporter

Entities under this classification are pineapple producers who manage or operate their own farms; and who are direct exporters.

1. Duly accomplished Application Form signed by authorized signatory
2. Copies of SEC/CDA and DTI registrations
3. Copy of Mayor's Permit (current)
4. List of farms, locations, area coverage (has.), packing house and brand (optional), projected yield (mt.)
5. List of independent pineapple producers with whom they have existing valid supply contracts with corresponding area coverage (has.) location and projected yield (mt.).

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B. Pineapple Trader-Exporter

Entities under this classification are pineapple exporters who do not manage or operate their own farms, and the fruits they export are purchased from pineapple producers.

1. Duly accomplished Application Form signed by authorized signatory
2. Copies of SEC/CDA and DTI registrations
3. Copy of Mayor's Permit (current)
4. Notarized certification from the pineapple trader-exporter with clear indication of the following:
 - 4.1 The fruit is sourced from producers with whom it has existing supply contracts, and that said pineapple producers do not have contractual obligations with any other pineapple exporter or trader.
 - 4.2 The fruit to be exported shall meet all the standards established by the Philippine National Standard (PNS) or by the importing country.
5. List of their pineapple producer/s, farm location/s, area coverage (has.), packinghouse and locations, and brand name/s used (optional), projected yield (mt).

Procedure for Registration

1. All interested exporters shall file an application for registration of their farms/plantations to the nearest BPI-PQS with the above mentioned requirements.
2. BPI-PQS shall validate the information provided in the application.
3. Whenever necessary, the BPI-PQS shall conduct an interview specially for applicants who still do not have track record of fresh pineapple exports. Interview shall cover Plant Quarantine Law, rules and regulations and the Quarantine Conditions for fresh pineapple export to Australia.
4. Evaluation of the nominated packing houses shall be done.
 - Packing houses must be equipped with net (less than 1.6 x 1.6mm) for any opening (windows etc.) to prevent entry of pests/insects.
 - Packing houses must have sufficient water supply, wash tubs and pressurized blower for cleaning of the fruits.
 - Packers should wear hairnets within the packing houses.
 - Packing houses should be disinfested by insecticides on a weekly basis or whenever necessary.
 - Packing houses must be located at least 25 meters away from grasses and other weeds that may cause contamination of weed seeds.
5. Upon completion of items-1-4, BPI-PQS shall issue a Certificate of Registration with corresponding codes for each farm/plantation. A list of registered farms shall be maintained by BPI.

6. An farm/exporter/plantation who violates the Plant Quarantine Law, rules and regulations of this protocol shall be delisted from the registry and its Certificate of Registration shall be revoked. Reinstatement shall only be possible upon compliance of all corrective measures based on thorough plant quarantine investigation.

Procedure for Export

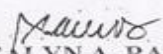
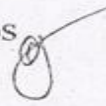
1. The registered exporter shall file an application for inspection and phytosanitary certification to BPI together with a valid Import Permit issued by Australia.
2. A BPI Plant Quarantine Officer shall be assigned whenever practicable, to supervise the packing process of any exporter at their packing station.
3. All fresh pineapple shall come only from the registered farms/plantations and should only be exported by registered entities.
4. The BPI-PQS shall carry out random inspection on five percent (5%) of the total packed pineapples or 600 units from any given lot (total packed pineapple for the day).
5. All packed pineapples shall bear the plantation/s code/s where the fruit was sourced.
6. Whenever necessary, inspection of the fruit shall be done at the port of exit following the same size sampling.
7. BPI-PQS shall ensure that fruit are properly de-crowned (totally no basal leaf) in compliance with the Australian requirements. Detection of regulated pest/s in the export fruit shall be subjected to usual phytosanitary measures to ensure compliance.
8. The exporter shall maintain a recording system to ensure traceback.

Revalidation

Registration shall be renewed on a yearly basis.

Effectivity

This Order shall take effect 15 days after the signature of the BPI Director.


LEALYN A. RAMOS
Officer-in-Charge 

14 December 2005