

What is the U.S. Lacey Act and why is it important?

On May 22, 2008, the U.S. Congress passed a groundbreaking law banning commerce in illegally sourced plants and their products — including timber and wood products. The new law is an amendment to a 100-year-old statute, named the Lacey Act after the Congressman who first championed it. While the Lacey Act has long been one of the most powerful tools for the U.S. agencies fighting wildlife crime, its potential to combat illegal logging remained untapped to date. Now the Lacey Act sets a groundbreaking precedent for the global trade in plants and plant products, acknowledging and supporting other countries' efforts to govern their own natural resources and putting in place powerful incentives for companies trading in these commodities to do the same.

Latest Updates

Please note that the Lacey Act will be enforced from 1-Sep-2010. The Lacey Act requires importers to provide a Plant Product Declaration Form-PPQ 505 to US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with every shipment. This declaration will increase transparency regarding the timber and plant trade and enable the US government to better enforce the law. CBP expects most importers to use the electronic system to file the PPQ 505 declaration. If a paper form of PPQ 505 declaration is used, the importer must send the declaration form to US Department of Agriculture.

Please be reminded that every shipment of paper products going into the U.S. should complete the declaration form PPQ 505. Hung Hing can help to fill in some of the information (eg. plant scientific name; country of harvest; quantity and value....) Please contact us for more information.



Plant and Plant Product Declaration Form
 Version 2.1 (April 2008) (Revised 10/10/10)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
 PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE

Applicability of Declaration:
 You are required to complete this form if you are importing any of the following:
 Any wild member of the plant kingdom, including roots, seeds, parts, or products thereof, and including trees from either natural or planted forest stands, except:
 1. Cultivated cotton, sugar cane, and common food crops (including roots, seeds, parts, or products thereof);
 2. Scientific specimens of plant genetic material (including roots, seeds, parts, or products thereof) that are to be used only for laboratory or field research;
 3. Plants that are to remain planted or to be planted or replanted; or
 4. Plants used exclusively as packaging material to support, protect, or carry another item, unless the packaging material itself is the item being imported.
 * You must still complete this form if you are importing plants described under 1. and 4. that are listed:
 - In accordance to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES LIST, TIAS 8249);
 - As an endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (50 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); or
 - Pursuant to any State law that provides for the conservation of species that are indigenous to the State and are threatened with extinction.

SECTION I - Shipper Information
 (To be completed by shipper or importer, as applicable)

1. SHIPPER'S NAME	2. SHIPPER'S ADDRESS
3. SHIPPER'S PHONE	4. SHIPPER'S FAX
5. SHIPPER'S E-MAIL	6. SHIPPER'S WEBSITE

Example of Declaration Form PPQ 505

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