DO NOT SEND PLANTS, FRUITS, AND VEGETABLES TO THE MAINLAND

The Plant Protection Act of 2000 prohibits the mailing of plants, fruits, and vegetables, or any other plant materials without inspection and certification. Plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables from Hawaii may be hosts for fruit flies and other destructive insects. Plant material can introduce plant diseases not found in the 48 contiguous states. These pests have the potential to cause severe damage to crops and the environment in other parts of the United States.

Over the past 15 years, eradicating outbreaks of pests like the Mediterranean fruit fly has cost American taxpayers more than $200 million. Outbreaks could be caused by produce illegally sent or carried to the mainland.

Fruits from Hawaii are prohibited.
Fruit from Hawaii cannot be certified as pest free. Pineapple and treated papaya are permitted.

People who illegally send prohibited items through the mail can be prosecuted and are subject to criminal or civil penalties, including fines of up to $1,000.

Guidelines for residents and visitors to Hawaii:

Items permitted into the mainland after inspection:
• Beach Sand
• Coconuts
• Dried seeds and decorative arrangements
• Fresh flowers, leis, and foliage,
• Except gardenia, jade vine, Mauna Loa
• Pineapples (fresh)
• Seashells, not land snail shells
• Seed leis and seed jewelry
• Wood roses (dried)
• Plants and cuttings that are certified to be pest free.
• Treated Papayas that are boxed and sealed

Items NOT permitted into the mainland:
• Fruits, except pineapple and treated papaya
• Berries, including fresh coffee berries
• Cactus plants or cactus plant parts
• Cotton and cotton bolls
• Fresh flowers of gardenia, jade vine, Mauna Loa
• Live insects and snails
• Soil or any plants in soil
• Seeds with fruit clinging and fresh seed pods
• Sugarcane
• Swamp cabbage (unchoy)
• Sweet Potato

Mailing processed fruits and vegetables is permissible. Processing includes cooking, drying, and freezing. If freezing, all fruits must be frozen solid at the time of inspection. Frozen mango must be without seeds.

Check with USDA for approved methods of processing. The Cooperative Extension Service has recipes with popular ways to prepare island favorites.

For additional information, telephone:
• USDA, 24-hour recording, on Oahu: 541-1991
• United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
  Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ):
  808-323-4700
  Honolulu  861-8490; Kona  329-2828
  Kauai  245-2831; Hilo  933-6931
  Maui  877-8757

Write to: USDA, APHIS, PPQ
Hawaii State Office
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Rm. 8-152
P.O. Box 50002
Honolulu, HI 96850

For information on how to certify plants and cuttings:
State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture.
Honolulu 832-0566; Hilo, 974-4141.
Kauai, 274-3069; Maui, 873-3555
Kona, 326-1077