

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
3.	Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Papayas
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Importation of Fruits and Vegetables; Papayas from Brazil and Costa Rica (3 pages)
5.	Description of content: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) finalized most aspects of G/SPS/N/USA/76 in a Final Rule published in the Federal Register on Thursday 25 September 1997. Papayas are the one exception from the original March proposal. APHIS is proposing new action concerning papayas, by reopening and extending the comment period on a proposal to allow the importation of papayas from Brazil. This will provide the public with an opportunity to comment on two additional safeguards we are proposing to add. These include requiring a hot water treatment and requiring that certain actions be taken if fruit fly captures reach certain levels in the papaya production areas. We are also proposing to add these safeguards to the requirements for importing papayas from Costa Rica, and are soliciting public comment on this action as well. These additional requirements appear necessary to prevent the introduction of injurious plant pests into the United States. Additionally, we will accept comments on any other issues involving the importation of papayas from Brazil.
6.	Objective and rationale: Plant health.
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist []. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations: APHIS is taking this action in accordance with Article 6. Paragraph 1 of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).
8.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: 62 FR 50260, 25 September 1997; 7 CFR Part 319; (English)

9.	Proposed date of adoption: To be determined.
10.	Proposed date of entry into force: The effective date will be given upon publication of the Final Rule in the Federal Register.
11.	Final date for comments: 27 October 1997. Agency or authority designated to handle comments: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA
12.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: United States SPS Enquiry Point: USDA/FAS/FSTSD ATTN: Carolyn F. Wilson Room 5545 South Agriculture Building Stop 1027 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250 Phone (202) 720-2239 Fax (202) 690-0677 E-mail Address: wilsonc@fas.usda.gov