

# BIOSECURITY RULES ON INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS COMING TO EUROPEAN UNION VIA FRANKFURT AIRPORT. PASSENGER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

Slogans such as “DON’T RISK IT!”, “DON’T PACK A PEST!”, “DECLARE IT!” and “DON’T BREAK THE LAW!” make passengers aware of serious plant pests and diseases carried by luggage in order to avoid losses of valuable yields of farmers and horticulturists, as well as to protect ornamental plants and trees in urban and rural areas.

To avoid inconvenient trouble after a long-haul flight, you are kindly requested to ensure that all your plants, fruits and vegetables are free from plant pests and diseases and that they are not prohibited from entering EU territory. Regulated plants and produce must be checked by your local plant health authority in sufficient time prior to your “take off” to the EU! For regulated goods, freedom from pests and diseases must be stated by a phytosanitary certificate (PC) issued by your local competent authority. **Remember, there are no exceptions for small quantities if you are traveling on a long distance flight entering EU territory via Frankfurt International Airport.** Exceptions may only apply if your goods originate verifiably from European non EU- or from Mediterranean countries.



The EU’s relevant regulated plants and produce are listed, amongst others, within annex V of the EU [Plant Health Directive 2000/29/EC](#). If you are not sure, please ask your local plant health office precisely whether your goods are allowed to be brought into the EU. Please understand that many quarantine diseases or pests (possibly including their eggs and tiny larvae) may be hiding in your carried goods.

Please note that all regulated goods destined to enter EU territory

- shall be accompanied by a valid PC (the original document, no copy will be accepted).
- shall be declared at customs or at a plant health authority at the point of entry.
- are subject to phytosanitary checks at the point of entry.

If these conditions are not met, your valuable perishables or plants may be rejected, and a caution may be issued. Moreover, you may be charged for the safe destruction of your rejected goods.

Presently, the following plants and produce are at the top of the complaints stats at the Frankfurt International Airport.

<i>Commonly rejected goods</i>	<i>Reason / e.g. findings of pests and diseases</i>
Orchid-cutflowers (mostly dendrobium sp.)	Thrips palmi, absence of phytosanitary certificate (PC)
Momordica sp. (bitter guord),	Fruit flies, thrips, several caterpillars
Mango, annona, citrus, capsicum sp (chili peppers),	Fruit flies, absence of PC
Vegetables such as fresh basil, mexican coriander, eggplant, etc.	Leaf miner, eggplant borer, thrips
Plants	Nematodes, white fly, viruses, wood boring insects
Hostplants of xylella fastidiosa	Bacteria, freedom for areas of origin required
Seeds, e.g. of tomato, capsicum.	Missing PC



*Hidden pests*

*Entry into EU is prohibited without a valid phytosanitary certificate*

*Questions concerning EU plant health import issues? [planthealth@rpgi.hessen.de](mailto:planthealth@rpgi.hessen.de) is on call.*

*please turn over ...*

**AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, “Don’t risk it”:** poster, leaflet and animation

<http://www.eppo.int/PUBLICATIONS/poster/poster&leaflet.htm>

[http://www.eppo.int/PUBLICATIONS/poster/poster\\_countries/OrganismiNociviAlieni\\_60sec\\_ENG.mp4](http://www.eppo.int/PUBLICATIONS/poster/poster_countries/OrganismiNociviAlieni_60sec_ENG.mp4)

(animation)

<http://pflanzenschutzdienst.rp-giessen.de/pflanzenbeschau/>

(providing this pages)

**The following examples and requirements cover the majority of cases but do not represent an exhaustive listing!**

## Can I bring it to the EU?

Please check your imports prior to departure and get a valid phytosanitary certificate for regulated items if necessary (see below).

EU import-requirements are risk based and often depend on the origin of the items. Ask your local plant health authority for details!

**Can I bring it to the EU?**



Orchid cutflowers/bouquets



**Yes, but** in addition to a notice of treatment on the packaging, a phytosanitary certificate issued by your local competent authority is still mandatory. Even packaged orchids need a PC!

Cutflowers, including orchids (mostly bouquets of dendrobium sp.) are undoubtedly the most commonly rejected items.



Plants, even plants in vitro

Some seeds, including tomato, chili, rice, ze mays and sunflower

**Yes**, with a few exceptions. A valid phytosanitary certificate issued by the competent authority is always mandatory for plants. Not all seeds require a certificate.

There are special requirements for many plants. For example, hostplants of xylella fastidiosa (bacteria) must be accompanied by a PC stating that the area in which the plants were grown is free of this bacteria.

Some plants, including solanum, citrus leaves and vitis, **are prohibited from entering the EU**. Soil, except in potted plants, is prohibited.



Citrus without leaves, mango, annona, pomelo, apple, pear, plum, guava, passionfruit, and other fruit



**Yes, but** a phytosanitary certificate issued by your local competent authority is mandatory.

Many fruits, such as mango and annona are at a high risk of infestation by dangerous fruit flies. The same applies for many garden grown items.



Chili peppers, momordica (bitter gourd), basil, mexican coriander (stinking), okra and other vegetables

**Yes, but** a phytosanitary certificate issued by your local competent authority is mandatory.

It may be hard to believe, but chili peppers are frequently infested with dangerous fruit flies.



Declare your regulated items on arrival!

Thank you for your cooperation.  
Welcome to Frankfurt!



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### AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, "Don't risk it": poster, leaflet and animation

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(animation)

(including this pages)

**DON'T RISK IT!**



**Pests and diseases can hide on plants.  
Please do not bring home plants,  
seeds, fruit, vegetables or flowers.**

