

Agriculture Programs & Trade Liaison (APTL)

CBP's Role in Protecting American Agriculture and Public Health

CDC Import Safety Webcast, December 3, 2020

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Who We Are

"APTL is a critical component of CBP's security mission by protecting against dangerous biological threats to national security, thereby ensuring safety and economic resilience for American people and industry."

Organization and Mission

In March 2003 –

- DHS was formed, integrating 22 different Federal agencies, including CBP.
- USDA-APHIS inspection duties at the ports of entry transferred to CBP.
- The office that later became Agriculture Programs & Trade Liaison (APTL) began to manage the agriculture mission at the ports of entry.

Northern and Southern Land Borders, including rail



**Seaports
Container ports
Cruise terminals**

**Express Consignment Mail Facilities
Airports**



**Pre-Clearance
Container
Security Initiative**



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~2,635 Agriculture Specialists in CBP

A Typical Day in Fiscal Year 2019:

CBP processes -

- 1,124,075 passengers and pedestrians.
- 371,912 incoming international air passengers and crew.
- 70,414 passengers and crew on arriving ships/boats.
- 681,750 incoming land travelers
- \$7.3 billion worth of imports.
- 4,695 quarantine material interceptions (plant and animal products, and soil).



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Agro/Bio-Terrorism Countermeasures (ABTC)

ABTC's mission and purpose is to strengthen CBP's operational capacity and capability in preventing the entry and mitigating risks of biological threats to American agriculture, public health, and natural resources.



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Coordination of Regulating Biological Material



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Regulated Biologicals – CBP

- All import products are subject to inspection by CBP.
- The **Importer/Shipper**, or their agent, is responsible for complying with all applicable shipping regulations including permits, certificates, and meeting DOT packaging and labeling requirements.
- Biologicals do **not** qualify for Section 321 as they are regulated by PGAs.



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Regulated Biologicals – CBP

Bio-Threat Exclusion Approach

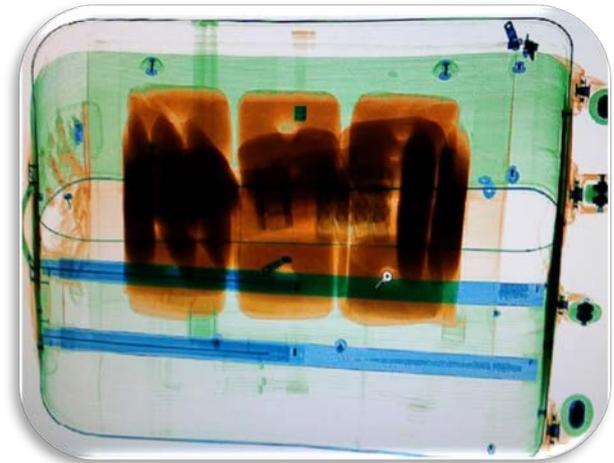
Before Arrival:

- Advanced screening of high risk imports.



On Arrival:

- Non-intrusive inspection (x-ray).
- Inspection of biological and agricultural imports.



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CBP Cargo Inspection Process



CBP Passenger Carrier transmits manifest to CBP (Pre-arrival targeting)



Cargo is held in a bonded facility awaiting CBP inspection



CBP examines cargo



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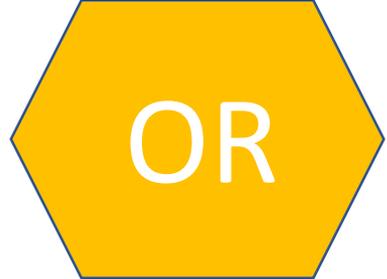
CBP Passenger Inspection Process



Carrier transmits manifest to CBP (Pre-arrival targeting)



CBP Admissibility



CBP Enforcement & Secondary Inspections

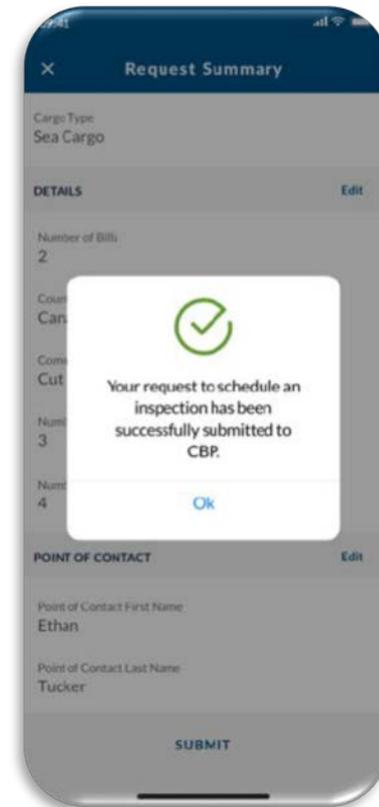


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CBP One™ is a mobile application that is intended to act as an intuitive single point of entry for travelers and stakeholders to access CBP mobile application and services such as:

- Report your Arrival via Air or Sea.
- Request inspection of Hand-Carry Permit Items.
- Provides live updates on the status of inspections/appointments.



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A roll out is expected Spring 2021.



ABTC Outreach Initiatives

Expanded outreach initiatives include:

- Informational Tear Sheets and update to the passenger “Know Before You Go” guidance on cbp.gov.
- Informational “Postcard” for outreach events.
- Multi-agency collaboration for outreach events.
- Locally, ports and field offices are including biological materials as a topic for Trade Days and other local events.
- Updated information available at CBP.gov/biologicals.



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ABTC Outreach Initiatives

CBP.gov/biologicals

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HOME >> TRADE >> BASIC IMPORT EXPORT

Trade

- Basic Import and Export
- ACE and Automated Systems
- Programs and Administration
- Priority Trade Issues
- Rulings and Legal Decisions
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act

About CBP | Newsroom | Travel | Trade | Border Security | Careers

What you need to know before importing Biological Materials into the United States

Federal, international, and state laws strictly regulate shipping, transport, and import of biological materials. Federal and international regulations pertaining to the shipment of dangerous goods or hazardous materials may also apply to biological materials. Import of biological materials must be clearly marked, labeled, packaged and/or placarded in accordance with the requirements of all international, Federal and state agencies.

Biological materials are categorized, permitted, and regulated based on the method of production or synthesis; packaging (bulk or final dosage form); whether they are animal, or plant disease; and status as an endangered species.

Examples of biological materials include (but are not limited to):

- Cell or tissue culture (includes primary cell/tissue cultures, reagents, and cell/tissue culture products)
- Cell/tissue culture product (includes monoclonal antibodies, nucleic acids [DNA/RNA]).
- Histopathological slides (fixed in formalin).
- Micro-organisms (includes recombinant or non-recombinant organisms)
- Products of micro-organisms (includes plasmids, nucleic acids)
- Test kits
- Vaccines
- Bacterins
- Toxoids
- Unused culture media

Partner Government Agency permitting websites:

 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Permits	 United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Permits	 Environmental Protection Agency Requirements for Importers and Exporters
 Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Permits	 Food & Drug Administration (FDA) Prior Notice & Review	 U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
 Joint CDC and USDA Federal Select Agent Program (FSAP)	 U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Specific Packaging & Shipping Requirements	

For additional information or clarification on importing biological materials into the United States, please contact your intended port of arrival or CBP at aptblatc@cbp.dhs.gov





For Additional Information:

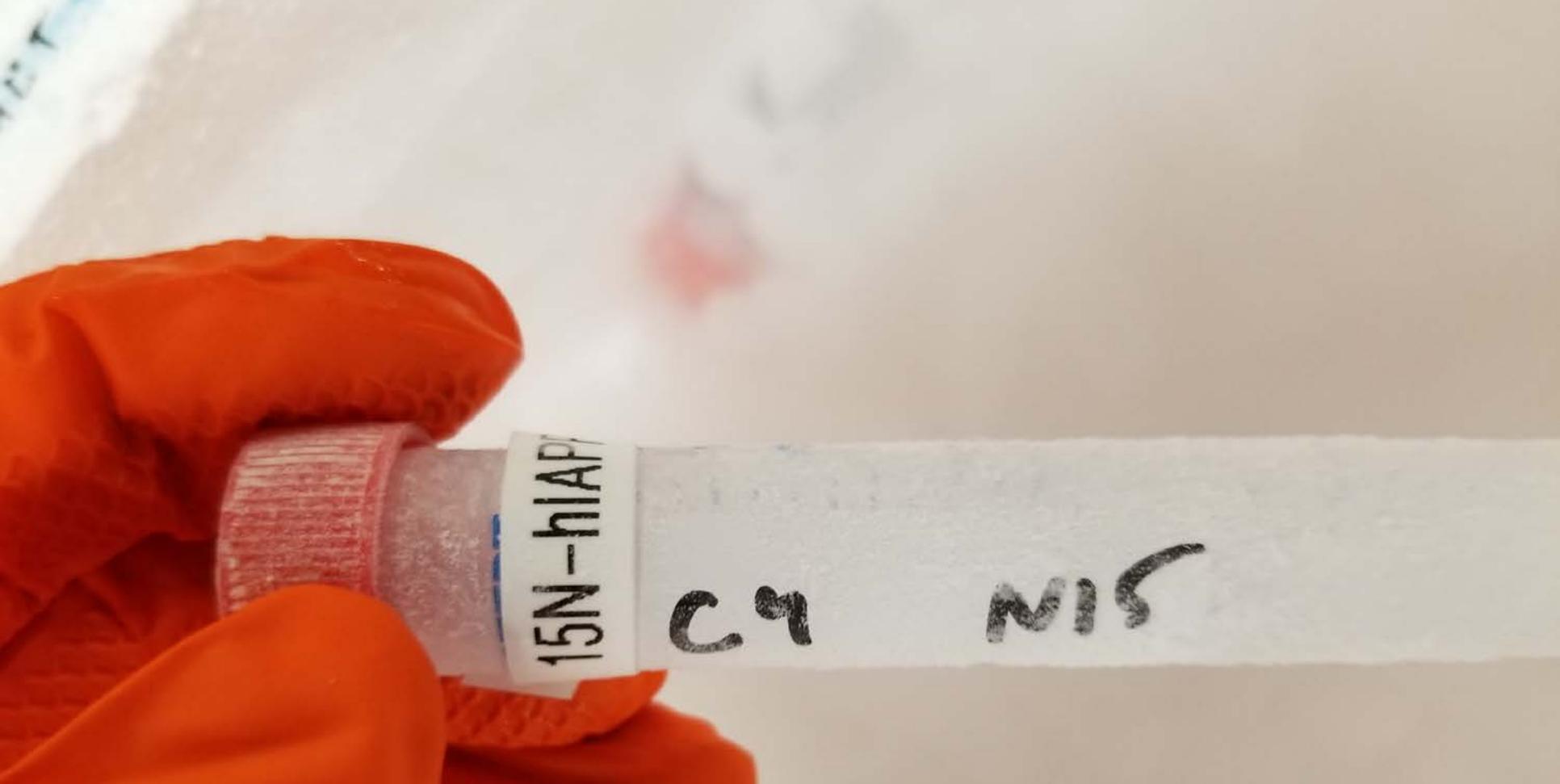
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Questions?

