GUIDELINES FOR TRAVELERS
WHAT IS
DON’T PACK A PEST
AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The “Don’t Pack a Pest!” program helps to educate international travelers about the risks associated with bringing certain types of food, plants, and agricultural items in passenger luggage and care packages into the United States.

If you are not careful, you might unknowingly help animal diseases and plant pests hitch-hike on items you travel with or ship. These diseases and pests can potentially harm crops, forests, animals, and the environment.

When packing for international travels, learn what food, plant, and animal items are prohibited. It takes only one person to spread harmful invasive pests. Help protect our food supply and natural resources!

SAFE AND HAPPY TRAVELS!

For example, some seemingly harmless items such as dried soup mixes (including ramen noodles) that contain meat are generally prohibited. Continue on for more travel tips and other examples of prohibited items.
Not declaring agricultural items can result in a penalty of up to $1,000 per first time offense and more for the second offense. REMEMBER: DECLARE!

You will not be penalized if you declare.
The U.S. Department of Agriculture restricts or prohibits many food and agricultural products from other countries because they could carry harmful invasive plant pests or animal diseases (such as highly pathogenic avian influenza or foot-and-mouth disease) into the United States.

When packing for international travels, it is important to know which items are prohibited.

**EXAMPLES OF GENERALLY PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- **Plants and Seeds**: May require a phytosanitary certificate or permit
- **Wood**: Wood products and handicrafts
- **Natural Medicines**: Dietary and nutritional supplements containing animal ingredients
- **Fruits and Vegetables**: Soil
- **Raw Eggs**: and products that contain raw eggs
- **Dried Soup Mixes**: and bouillon that contain meat or poultry
- **Meats**: except hard cheese
- **Dairy Products**:
- **SOIL**:

These guidelines are just examples of generally prohibited agricultural products. When in doubt, remember these three tips:

- Do not pack fresh fruits and vegetables
- Do not pack meat products
- Always declare all food, plants, and agricultural items when you arrive in the United States

This is not a complete list. Check [www.dontpackapest.com/travel-guidelines](http://www.dontpackapest.com/travel-guidelines) to learn whether your items are allowed.
Before you pack, learn whether your items are prohibited. Remember, many items do not need to be packed because they are available at stores in the United States.
To find out what you can pack, visit:

www.don'tpackapest.com/Travel-Guidelines

DISCLAIMER

U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations are subject to change at any time and they can change quickly in response to pest or disease outbreaks that occur in other countries.

This brochure was produced in partnership with

PUBLISHED MARCH 2018