

# North American Sea Container Initiative

## Commission on Phytosanitary Measures-14

### Side-Session: Sea Change for Sea Containers

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# Sea Containers: Biosecurity Risk

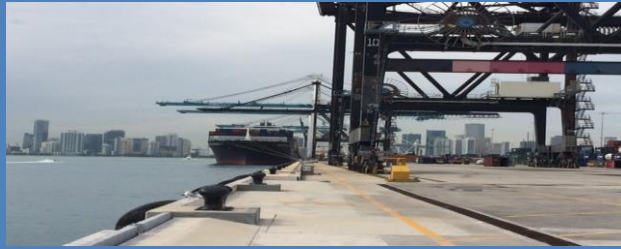


Photo: Lawrence Barringer gwood. 524251



Credit: Mark R. McNeill



# North American Sea Container Initiative

**Voluntary** Canada-United States **government-industry** initiative





# North American Sea Container Initiative

## Mission Statement

Industry and government working collaboratively to raise awareness, educate, and motivate participants along the supply chain to help reduce pest risks associated with sea containers and their cargos.

Cleanliness matters

Cleanliness protects

Clean containers and clean cargos are good business

Clean containers and clean cargos reduce inspections, expedite clearance, and result in lower costs to the sea container supply chain

## Ultimate Goal

Safeguarding the world's agriculture and natural resources and facilitating safe international trade by reducing pest risks from sea containers and their cargos.

# North American Sea Container Initiative

## Objectives

- Enhance understanding of challenges and opportunities for **identifying** and **reducing** pest risks in the sea container supply chain.
- Enhance understanding of **logistics** of container movement in North America
- Conduct **outreach and education** to our respective stakeholders, industries and organizations
- Collect **data** to measure risk of pathway and effectiveness of outreach
- Encourage **global adoption** of similar, **voluntary** programs through the International Plant Protection Convention and other relevant international and regional forums

# North American Sea Container Initiative

## What's been done so far

- Identifying existing industry guidelines related to sea container cleanliness (e.g. Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code), Joint Industry Guidelines for Cleaning of Containers)
- Engaging industry groups on guidelines and programs for cargo (e.g. the Italian ceramic tile industry's Good Phytosanitary Practices Program)
- Working with government and industry to collect data to continue to measure biosecurity risks of sea container pathway
- Outreach
  - Joint United States-Canada Sea Container Bulletin
  - Web page published on both USDA-APHIS and CFIA websites
  - Frequently Asked Questions document, logo, infographic, deck of slides, video
  - Participated in various government and industry forums and meetings

# North American Sea Container Initiative

**USDA** United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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**Our Focus**

- Program Overview
- Pests and Diseases
- Import into the U.S.
- Export from the U.S.
- International
- Manuals

## U.S.-Canada Joint Notice: Sea Container Cleanliness

Last Modified: Oct 25, 2017

Invasive pests hitchhike around the globe in and on the agricultural products we import. They also travel on and in the millions of rail wagons, trailers and sea cargo containers that crisscross our oceans and continents on trains, trucks and ships. Once introduced, invasive pests are very difficult and expensive to control or eradicate. They can severely damage agricultural production, affect property values, and reduce water availability and quality. The total cost of lost revenue and clean-up can run into billions of dollars.

**The North American Sea Container Initiative**

To protect North American agriculture, forestry and natural resources against the introduction of invasive pests and diseases, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) have worked with U.S. and Canadian border protection agencies and global shipping companies to develop the following guidance for cleaning and inspecting sea containers. This guidance complements the International Maritime Organization's Code of Practice for Packing Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code). Everyone involved in moving containers has an opportunity to protect our crops, forests, and livestock by ensuring that containers and their cargo are free from unwanted plants, plant products, insects, snails, soil, animals and animal droppings.

**Impact of Invasive Pests on Trade**

Invasive pests threaten crops, forests, and livestock. They also have a very real impact on trade. When a contaminated container is found in port, the cargo owner, importer, or shipper can expect:

- delayed cargo release
- demurrage charges due to cargo holds, and
- unexpected costs associated with having the container quarantined, tarped and treated, cleaned, or re-exported back to origin at the cargo owner's expense

Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments

Canada

Au sujet de l'ACIA Aliments Animaux Végétaux Orientation pour l'industrie

Accueil → Végétaux → Phytoravageurs / espèces envahissantes → Propreté des conteneurs maritimes

## Avis conjoint Canada-É.-U. – Propreté des conteneurs maritimes

Les ravageurs envahissants sont des globe-trotters qui parcourent le monde en utilisant les produits agricoles que nous importons. Ils sont également présents dans des millions de wagons, remorques et conteneurs maritimes qui sillonnent les océans et les continents à bord des trains, des camions et des navires. Une fois qu'ils ont élu domicile dans un pays, il en coûte cher pour les contrôler ou les éradiquer. Ils peuvent gravement endommager la production agricole, influencer la valeur des propriétés et réduire la disponibilité et la qualité de l'eau. Le coût total des pertes de revenus et du nettoyage se chiffre en milliards de dollars.

### Initiative nord-américaine sur la manutention des conteneurs maritimes

Afin de protéger l'agriculture, les forêts et les ressources naturelles de l'Amérique du Nord contre l'introduction de ravageurs envahissants et de maladies, l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments (ACIA) et le département de l'Agriculture des États-Unis (USDA) ont collaboré avec les agences américaine et canadienne de protection de frontières et les compagnies internationales de transport maritime pour élaborer la directive suivante de nettoyage et d'inspection des conteneurs maritimes. Cette directive complète le Code de bonnes pratiques de l'Organisation maritime internationale pour le chargement des cargaisons dans des engins de transport (code CTU). Quiconque joue un rôle dans le déplacement des conteneurs peut contribuer à protéger nos cultures, nos forêts et notre bétail en s'assurant que les conteneurs et leurs marchandises sont exempts de plantes, de produits végétaux, d'insectes, d'escargots, de terre, d'animaux indésirables et d'excréments.

**Impact des ravageurs envahissants sur le commerce**

Invasive pests threaten crops, forests, and livestock. They also have a very real impact on trade. When a contaminated container is found in port, the cargo owner, importer, or shipper can expect:

- delayed cargo release
- demurrage charges due to cargo holds, and
- unexpected costs associated with having the container quarantined, tarped and treated, cleaned, or re-exported back to origin at the cargo owner's expense

**FAO** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**IPPC** International Plant Protection Convention

## Sea container cleanliness

Invasive pests travel around the globe in and on the agricultural and forestry products we trade. They also catch a ride on and in the millions of rail wagons, trailers and sea cargo containers that crisscross our oceans and continents on trains, trucks and ships. Once introduced, pests are very difficult and expensive to control or eradicate. They can severely damage agricultural production, affect property values, and reduce water availability and quality. The total cost of lost revenue and clean-up can run into billions of dollars.

### The Sea Container Initiative

The IPPC have adopted CPM Recommendation (R-06) on *Sea containers*<sup>1</sup>, the purpose of which is to protect agriculture, forestry and natural resources against pests. This Recommendation helps promote sea container cleanliness and it complements the IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code)<sup>2</sup>. Everyone involved in moving containers has an opportunity to protect our crops and forests by ensuring that containers and their cargo are free from unwanted pests such as plants, insects,

### Impact of pests on international trade

Pests threaten crops and forests. They also have a very real impact on international trade. When a contaminated container is found at a port or other border crossing, the cargo owner, importer, or shipper may experience:

- delayed cargo release, due to inspection of the container

# North American Sea Container Initiative

## Preventing the Spread of Invasive Pests

Recommended Practices for the Container Supply Chain



Invasive pests threaten crops, forests, and livestock. By taking reasonable steps to keep containers and their cargo clean, you will help prevent the spread of invasive pests through commerce and facilitate the movement of your containers through North American ports.

The risk for pests to contaminate containers and cargo is greatest at the packing location. Shippers or packers acting on behalf of shippers should put measures in place to minimize pest contamination during packing. Others in the supply chain should also put measures in place to reduce the risk of pest contamination while the container is in their control. These measures should be in accordance with individual roles and responsibilities in the supply chain and should take into consideration all safety and operational constraints.

### CLEAN STAGING/PACKING AREA

Clear the cargo staging and packing area to ensure that it is free from plants and visible pests. Containers placed on grassy areas may be more vulnerable to contamination by insects and snails.



### VISUALLY INSPECT CONTAINERS BEFORE PACKING

Visually inspect the outside and inside of the container for visible contaminants such as plants, seeds, insects, egg masses, snails, animals, animal droppings, and soil.



### CLEAN CONTAINERS

Sweep, vacuum, or wash containers before packing to remove potential contaminants. Be aware that environmental factors, such as heavy rains, may increase the likelihood of certain types of contamination.



### CLEAN CARGO

Ensure cargo packed into the container is clean and free of visible contaminants.



### DO NOT KEEP UNDER BRIGHT LIGHTS

Do not keep containers under bright lights, which will attract insects to the cargo staging area and increase the likelihood of contamination. If containers must be kept under bright lights, thoroughly check each container before packing.



### USE BAITS, TRAPS OR BARRIERS

Where appropriate, use baits, traps, or barriers to keep pests out of the cargo staging and packing area. For example, you can use a salt barrier to prevent snail infestations.



### WHEN MOVING CONTAINERS BETWEEN ANIMAL PRODUCTION FACILITIES

1. Avoid driving containers through manure or wastewater.
2. Where applicable, sweep, vacuum, or wash containers to remove contaminants, such as soil or animal droppings, that could move animal disease from one location to another.
3. Whenever possible, park containers on paved areas and away from livestock pens and pastures.





# North American Sea Container Initiative

## What's next

- Continue to expand international awareness and potential adoption of this type of **voluntary** initiative
- Continue outreach and education efforts
- Determine effectiveness of outreach and voluntary approach in minimizing biosecurity risk
- Participate in IPPC Sea Container Task Force survey



# Working Together

## What We Can All Do

- See it, say it
- Do it – adopt best management practices such as CTU code, cleaning guidelines
- Participate - spread the word that container cleanliness counts
- Share ideas - how we can all better protect global plant resources



# Working Together We Can

- Better identify biosecurity risks and how to mitigate them
- Minimize biosecurity risk while maintaining trade flow
- Enhance awareness and education to reach many stakeholders, industries and organizations

**shared risk = shared responsibility**





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# Thank you

## Comments, Questions, Discussion



**Biosecurity: Shared Risk – Shared Responsibility**