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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
WORK PLAN 2004-2005
FLOWERBULB PRECLEARANCE

Operated under agreement between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS); Republic of South Africa (RSA)– Department of Agriculture, Directorates: South African Agricultural Food, Quarantine and Inspection Services (SAAFQIS) & Plant Health and Deciduous Fruit Producers Trust (DFPT) (Cooperative Trust Fund Holder).

I. DEFINITIONS

A. Product Being Exported

1. Those genera and species that have underground parts that conform to the definition of bulbs as given in 7CFR319.37-1 "the portion of a plant commonly known as a bulb, bulbil, bulblet, corm, cormel, rhizome, tuber, or pip, and including fleshy roots or other underground fleshy growths, a unit of which produces an individual plant" and are listed in M319.37.

B. Primary Pests and/or Organisms of Concern

1. Nematodes - *Ditylenchus* spp., *Aphelenchoides* spp. (0% tolerance)
 2. *Globodera rostochiensis* & *G. pallida** (0% tolerance.)
 3. Soil – (0% tolerance)
 4. Quality concerns – Appendix I (variable tolerances)
- * Not known to occur in South Africa.

C. Participating Organizations

1. The United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS).
2. The Department of Agriculture, Directorates: South African Agricultural Food, Quarantine and Inspection Services (SAAFQIS) and Plant Health
3. Deciduous Fruit Producers Trust (Cooperative Trust Fund).

D. Cooperative Agreement

1. This program is based on guidelines outlined in APHIS's **Commodity Pre-clearance Program Management Guidelines dated 02-2002**.
2. It is executed under authority of Cooperative Agreement No. 95-5000-0174TF between USDA/APHIS and the Deciduous Fruit Producers Trust.

II. USDA REGULATIONS GOVERNING ENTRY OF PRECLEARED BULBS INTO THE UNITED STATES

- A. Bulbs are regulated under 7CFR319.37 (Subpart-Nursery stock, plants, roots, bulbs, seeds, and other Plant Products). Provisions include:
1. Bulbs approved for pre-clearance are listed in Appendix B, B-1 of the Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) Inspectors Manual (M319.37).
 2. Certain articles are prohibited entry into the United States in order to prevent the introduction and dissemination of exotic, injurious plant pests and disease organisms (7CFR319.37-2(a)).
 3. All bulbs imported from the Republic of South Africa for propagation require a phytosanitary certificate (PC) (7CFR319.37-4).
 5. The PC must include an accurate additional declaration (AD) that the bulbs were grown on land that has been sampled and microscopically inspected within the previous 12 months by DOA and found to be free

from potato cyst nematodes (PCN), *Globodera rostochiensis* (Woll.) Behrens and *G. pallida** (Stone) Behrens (7CFR319.37-5). Soil testing/sampling Appendix 1.

* Not known to occur in South Africa

6. All bulbs shall be in a dormant state of growth and be free from sand, soil, earth, or other growing media at the time of arrival (7CFR319.37-8).
7. Bulbs may also be subject to spot-check inspections at the port of arrival in the United States at the option of APHIS under the authority of 7CFR319.37-4b, The Plant Quarantine Act of 1912 as amended (7U.S.C.164a) and The Federal Plant Pest Act (7U.S.C.150ee).

B. APHIS policies related to pre-clearance programs

1. APHIS policy for a pre-clearance program requires the existence of a funding agreement to pay all APHIS costs associated with the program.
2. All growing season inspections (GSI) and dry-bulb inspections, associated safeguarding, and other activities are conducted in South Africa with the monitoring of APHIS.
3. All approved shippers will be registered with DOA.

C. Conditions of entry

1. Any pre-cleared bulb shall be plainly and correctly marked and identified on the outer container as described in 7CFR319.37-10, and bear a 203s indicating pre-clearance by APHIS/DOA in South Africa.
2. Only approved packing materials listed in 7CFR319.37-9 may be used. All packing and shipping containers must be free of soil and pests.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. It is the responsibility of APHIS to:

1. Provide for management and supervision of the program by the appropriate Region IV APHIS IS personnel.
2. Furnish the necessary inspection staff to accomplish the inspection and clearance of shipments of flower bulbs from South Africa to the United States.
3. Review and provide input into the DOA draft work plan for conformance to APHIS policies and procedures and maintain the work plan for the program.
4. Verify that each participant properly carries out his responsibilities.
5. Notify PPQ at the U.S. Port of Entry (POE) of any shipments of bulbs arriving from South Africa that are not pre-cleared.
6. APHIS Region IV Office Brussels will provide an accounting of funds deposited by the Cooperator at the end of each fiscal year and a final accounting upon termination or expiration of the agreement. Any funds that are not obligated at the conclusion of any fiscal year may be utilized during the ensuing fiscal year in a continuation of the inspection services in the event of renewal of this agreement. Any non-obligated funds remaining in the account, upon termination or expiration of this agreement, shall be returned to the Cooperator.

B. It is the responsibility of DOA to:

1. Present to APHIS an official request to perform work in the country, and commit to active participation by DOA in all pre-clearance activities.
2. Draft the Bulb Pre-clearance work plan.
3. Abide by all the requirements of the work plan and applicable regulations.
4. Provide administrative support to maintain the statistical programs, enter the inspection results in the computer, coordinate the daily inspection schedules, and compile the monthly and yearly reports.
5. Provide DOA inspector(s) to accompany the APHIS officer(s) during growing season monitoring inspections and dry-bulb inspections.
6. Perform growing season inspections (GSI).

7. Have information available on each stock's GSI results at the time of dry-bulb inspection (species, growing area, location, etc).
 - a. Make this information available to the APHIS officer prior to dry-bulb inspections.
 - b. Ensure that only stocks passing GSI are presented for dry-bulb inspection.
8. Ensure that each stock presented for dry-bulb inspection were grown in fields that have been tested for PCN in the 12 months prior to harvest, and the results have been received. Stocks from fields with a positive result will not be presented to the APHIS/DOA team (TEAM).
9. Inspect each stock of dry-bulbs before the TEAM inspection. Lots rejected during this DOA inspection will not be presented to the APHIS/DOA TEAM.
10. Prepare inspection sheets identifying each lot inspected (initialed by DOA).
11. Prepare the exporter's copy of the inspection sheets after each TEAM inspection, indicating which lots passed and/or failed for export to the United States.
12. Provide or arrange for identification services of an entomologist, pathologist, or nematologist as needed.
13. Issue and sign the PC's and distribute the copies properly. Ensure that PC's contain the statement: "Pre-cleared Flower Bulbs for the U. S. A.", and log each PC at time of issuance.

C. It is the responsibility of the Cooperator (DFPT) to:

1. Abide by all the requirements of the work plan and applicable regulations.
2. Provide necessary funds to cover all official APHIS inspection activities (TDY officer's salaries including overtime, travel, and per diem, lodging and other incidental expenses as needed for inspectors).
3. Arrange in advance with DOA the dates requested for field inspections.
4. Obtain from the Government of South Africa any necessary permits or licenses required for inspectors so as to insure their free access to bulbs for export to the United States.
5. Provide a system to cross-check all PC's with shipping line information and

customs export documents to ensure only pre-cleared bulbs are exported to the United States.

IV. TREATMENT

A. Procedure

1. All treatments are according to DOA schedules.
2. Equipment is not required to be certified by APHIS.
3. APHIS inspectors are not required to supervise, monitor or safeguard treatments. (Inspections are made after treatments.)
4. On a spot check basis, APHIS officers may inspect bulbs prior to treatment.

V. INSPECTION

A. Sampling Rate Requirement

1. FIELD INSPECTIONS – inspection of a typical area(s) that represent the entire field.
2. DRY BULB INSPECTIONS – representative sample that allows APHIS/DOA to feel confident the inspection lot meets phytosanitary standards, usually a 2% target level.

B. Location of inspections

1. All inspections will take place in the country of origin (production).

C. Pre-harvest Growing Season Monitoring Inspection (GSI)(Field)

1. GSI's are conducted cooperatively by APHIS and DOA. The area/specific fields to be monitored will be selected before the season starts by APHIS and DOA. The fields selected for inspection would be a representative sample of the regional crop. Generally regions monitored one year would not be monitored again until the other growing regions in South Africa have been visited, with the exact schedule being agreed upon by all parties. Grower/cooperator representatives may accompany the APHIS/DOA inspectors.
2. Preliminary inspections are routinely made by DOA inspectors prior to the

arrival of the APHIS inspectors. Fields rejected during the preliminary inspection will not be presented to the APHIS/DOA.

3. The cooperative APHIS/DOA GSI is conducted as described below:
 - a. Plants in the field are inspected by variety and stock.
 - b. An inspection unit consists of a representative sample typical of the whole area of planting.
 - c. Before undertaking a detailed examination of the field, the stocks are given a general appraisal and investigation of any obviously weak patches or areas of uneven growth.
 - d. Host-country requirements for virus levels for export have priority over U.S. requirements.
 - e. When stem nematode is detected in a field, all stocks from that field fail, (unless there is a clear biological separation within the field). Since stem nematode can easily spread from one stock to an adjacent stock (the risk of spread is greater in a wet season than in a dry one), all adjacent stocks would also fail, unless there is a clear biological separation between the fields.
 - f. Any field showing excessive signs of PCN host crop (ex: potato) growth or remains of harvested host crops will be rejected. When very small isolated patches of PCN host material exist, the material may be sampled and evaluated for PCN. If the sample is negative, the field can be approved. Any positive samples will result in the field being rejected.
 - g. A list of "approved" fields (and stocks) will be developed and maintained by DOA based on the GSI's. The approved list will be made available to the APHIS officer on request.

D. Dry-Bulb Inspections

1. Normally inspections are made at the exporter's pack house or the growers pack house. Local transportation is furnished by exporters/DOA.
2. The APHIS/DOA inspectors schedule is developed and coordinated through DOA with cooperation from the exporters.

- a. Exporters request inspections at their local DOA office.
3. Dry-bulb inspections are made cooperatively, always in the company of a DOA inspector. A representative of the cooperator/exporters may be present during inspections.
4. Preliminary phytosanitary inspections are routinely made by the DOA inspectors prior to the arrival of the APHIS. Shipments rejected during the preliminary inspection will not be presented to the APHIS/DOA .
 - a. Before APHIS/DOA inspection, DOA reviews the documentation:
 - 1). A list of "approved" fields, developed from the spring GSI, will be made available upon request. Any shipment inspected should be capable of being identified back to the approved field list.
5. Sample selection.
 - a. Inspections are made using sufficient examined material to assure a sound appraisal of the pest risk and plant health of the lot (typically a 2% sample).
 - b. Selection for inspection should be by: Grower, Size, Variety, Farm and field.
 - c. Bulbs must be dormant. Fully expanded leaves, or leaf stumps longer than 2 cm. are prohibited.
6. Inspection areas in packing facilities must be well illuminated and in good sanitary condition. The inspection areas must be protected from the elements and should not be located in refrigeration rooms. The inspection room equipment should consist of flat and/or slanted tables with white tops, an artificial illumination system to enhance daylight.
7. Final decision on actions concerning pests and diseases of quarantine interest is the responsibility of the APHIS officer after consultation with the DOA inspector Taxonomic back-up is provided by DOA identifiers

E. Safeguards

1. Chemicals applied to bulbs in South Africa are done under authority of DOA legislation. APHIS does not direct the treatment. All precautions including the use of gloves and/or dust masks, hand washing should be used when handling bulbous material treated with pesticides or fungicides.

F. Storage

1. Containers (boxes, bins, nets, crates, etc) containing pre-cleared bulbs must be free from soil and pests.
2. Shipments pre-cleared at packing houses must be stored in a separate room or area, or, if in a common room, a distance of two meters separation from non-U.S. shipments, or a divider must be erected to physically separate the pre-cleared bulbs from non-pre-cleared bulbs. Pre-cleared bulbs must clearly be marked "For USA".

G. Port of Entry (POE) Monitoring

1. The following actions may be carried out by APHIS officers at POEs in the United States.
 - a. Verify paperwork
 - b. Check that the nets contain the 203s
 - c. On a spot-check basis, physically inspect the bulbs.
 - d. If a shipment is found not to be in compliance, the POE will notify APHIS Pretoria directly or OS in Riverdale, who will notify the APHIS Pretoria office.

VI. SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

A. Safeguards

1. Only approved packing materials may be used (http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_03/7cfr319_03.html).
2. Pre-cleared bulbs must be packed in new, unused boxes or nets.
3. APHIS/DOA will conduct surveys of the packing houses for pests and phytosanitary conditions during the packing season to determine if the packing houses are adequate to provide pest-free bulbs.
4. Pre-cleared bulbs that are shipped in trucks cannot be mixed with non-pre-cleared commodities.
 - a. Pre-cleared bulbs may be mixed in the same air cargo hold with non-pre-cleared materials only if the pre-cleared bulbs are sealed in separate airline cargo igloos to prevent the chance of infestation.
5. A 203s or PPQ form 203, must be placed on each carton, net, or crate.
6. Trucks, sea containers, airline igloos, pallets, etc. used to transport pre-cleared bulbs must be free from soil and pests.
7. Pre-cleared bulbs may be shipped to the USA subsequently subject to phytosanitary inspection and certification by DOA.
8. Bulbs not shipped within 24 hours after inspection should be placed in closed warehouses or covered with insect proof netting or wrapping.

B. Sealing Requirements

1. There are no APHIS sealing requirements. The shipping line or DOA sealing requirements will be met.

VII. REMARKS/VIOLATIONS/CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

A. Procedures

1. Remarks
 - a. A lot is rejected if a regulatory violation is found during pre-clearance inspection.

A regulatory violation would be defined as soil contamination and/or the

presence of quarantine pests or diseases and/or non-acceptable quality issues as determined by DOA.

b. Rejection of a shipment. The following "decision table" may be used to halt shipments from a grower if the rejection of lots are as follows:

- 1). Inspection of up to 3 lots with 2 rejections.
- 2). Inspection of up to 6 lots with 3 lots rejected.
- 3). Inspection of up to 12 lots with 4 lots rejected.

c. If a violation is found during POE inspection

- 1). The POE will send a sample to the APHIS Pretoria office.
- 2). The exporters will identify the grower and packing house of the lot.
- 3). DOA and/or APHIS will inspect the remaining bulbs from the lot (if they are still available).
- 4). DOA and APHIS will discuss the violation and agree on a plan to place a more stringent inspection regime on the grower or packing house involved.
- 5). DOA will notify the grower or packing house in writing of the procedure.
- 6). After one year without any further problems, the grower or packing house may be returned to regular inspection procedures. DOA will verify this in writing.
- 7). If there is a second violation by the same grower or packing house, they will be suspended from the program for one year.

2. Repeated events

a. Removal of an exporter from the program.

- 1). Exporters will be removed from the program on the basis of repetitive or gross violations of procedural or biological specifications after consultations with DoA-DPH.

- 2). Fields or packing sheds rejected for two consecutive years will be declared ineligible for pre-clearance participation the following year.
 - b. Future reinstatement will be possible only by mutual consent of DOA, cooperator and APHIS.
 3. Deliberate attempt to circumvent the pre-clearance system
 - a. Any packer/exporter/shipper that deliberately and maliciously attempts to subvert the pre-clearance system will be immediately suspended from pre-clearance activities. The offending packer/exporter/shipper will be re-admitted to the program only with the concurrence of APHIS, DOA and the cooperator.
- B. Program Suspension/Termination
 1. Two or more major violations (as defined in 3(a) above) committed during a shipping season would be cause for DOA and APHIS to review the program procedures. In extreme cases, termination of the program could be considered. The pre-clearance program would remain suspended until such time as DOA and Deciduous Fruit Producers Trust would provide and implement a satisfactory action plan to rectify the problem.
- C. Program Reinstatement
 1. In order to reactivate a program, DOA must provide details of proposed corrective action and APHIS must agree on reactivation.

VIII. DOCUMENTATION AND RECORD KEEPING

- A. Phytosanitary Certificates (PC's)
 1. DOA is responsible for issuing and signing PCs for all shipments.
 2. In block # 8 of the PC's will be written: "PRECLEARED FLOWER BULBS FOR U.S.A." This phrase-typed or stamped- will be included in direct bulb shipments into the United States.
 3. Each PC will include an accurate AD that the bulbs were grown on land

that has been sampled and microscopically inspected within the previous 12 months by NDA and found free from PCN *Globodera rostochiensis* (Woll.) Behrens and *G. pallida**(Stone) Behrens.

* Not known to occur in South Africa.

4. The PC's should give the total number of bulbs, number of nets or boxes, lot/stock number and/or variety name so each lot can be traced back to the dry-bulb and field inspection sheets.
5. Distribution of Copies.
 - a. Shipments sent directly to the United States - The original PC's and 203's will be sent with the shipment.

B. Labels

1. Bulbs sent in bulk via South Africa and prepackaged there, must retain their identity as "Product of (country of origin)".

C. Record Keeping

1. DOA will be responsible for logging figures of total bulbs inspected per lot/stock and maintaining a tally of bulbs shipped against bulbs inspected, maintain mix sheets specifying the lot numbers of each component in the log. DOA will log each PC at the time of issuance for direct and indirect shipments of U.S. pre-cleared bulbs. This log will be subject to review by APHIS officers, and should include PC number, date, total bulbs and inspector issuing the certificate. APHIS will check the figures from the South African re-export PC's against the numbers of bulbs imported on the incoming PCs.
2. Exporters - For direct shipments, the exporter should fax copies of 203's and PC to the Pretoria APHIS office.

IX. APPENDICES

The following appendix is attached to this document:

Appendix 1: Soil sampling procedures for Cyst nematodes

Appendix 2: Pests of *Hippeastrum* according to literature, but not necessarily detected/occurring on *Hippeastrum*, *Eucomis* and *Ranunculus spp* in South Africa

Appendix 3: Phytosanitary evaluation and certification: *Hippeastrum* (Amaryllis), *Eucomis* and *Ranunculus spp* bulbs

Appendix 1

SOIL SAMPLING PROCEDURES FOR CYST NEMATODES

Sampling

- Sampling must be performed before planting.
- Soil samples must be obtained by mixing individual core-samples distributed systematically over the area to be sampled.
- The area to be sampled must not exceed 4 ha in size.
- A minimum of 60 to 80 cores-samples (\pm 4 Kg) per 4 ha, smaller areas 20 cores per ha.
- Areas of more than 4 ha are to be subdivided into units of 4 ha or less.
- Because of the typically patchy distribution of nematodes in fields, the entire field must be sampled.
- To ensure systematic distribution of core-samples, a W-shaped path must be followed across the field.
- Core-samples can be obtained by using a tool of the “cheese-sampler” type with half-cylindrical blade 20-30 cm long and 20-25 mm wide. Alternatively a small spade can be used. A core or spade sub-sample should be taken to a depth of up to 20 cm over the full profile.

Handling of samples

- Place the mixed core-samples in a clean plastic bag.
- Tie bag tightly to keep soil moist.
- Do not include any information inside the plastic bag.
- Keep samples out of direct sunlight and hot enclosures, such as car boots.
- Do not drop samples.
- Send the samples to Plant Health Services, Polkadraai Road, Stellenbosch as soon as possible.

**NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTORATE PLANT HEALTH AND QUALITY
STANDARD EXPORT CONTROL**

STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE: SOUTH AFRICAN PEST LIST
HIPPEASTRUM (Amaryllis)

**PESTS OF *HIPPEASTRUM* ACCORDING TO LITERATURE, BUT NOT
NECESSARILY DETECTED/OCCURRING ON *HIPPEASTRUM* IN
SOUTH AFRICA**

Bacteria:

- None

Fungi:

- Botryotinia fuckeliana*
- Phoma dennisii*
- Stagonosporopsis curtisii*

Viruses:

- Cucumber mosaic virus
- Hippeastrum mosaic virus
- Tomato spotted wilt tospovirus

Insects:

- Brithys pancratii*
- Frankliniella occidentalis*
- Phenacoccus solani*
- Pseudococcus viburni*
- Pseudococcus longispinus*
- Vryburgia lounsburyi*

Mites:

- Rhizoglyphus robini*
- Steneotarsonemus laticeps*

Nematodes:

- Ditylenchus dipsaci*

- *Pratylenchus coffeae*
- *Pratylenchus scribneri*
- *Pratylenchus penetrans*
- *Scutellonema brachyurus*

Drafted Mike Holtzhausen
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**NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTORATE PLANT HEALTH AND QUALITY
STANDARD EXPORT CONTROL
STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE**

**PHYTOSANITARY EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION: *HIPPEASTRUM*
(AMARYLLIS) BULBS.**

Reference: SA/USA Work plan pre-clearance for flower bulbs of *Hippeastrum* (Amaryllis) (Appendix 3). Details outlined in the 2002 – 2003 Flower bulb pre-clearance work plan between the USA and South Africa, shall be complied with.

Phytosanitary procedures:

Registration

All fields where Amaryllis bulbs will be grown with the intention to export the crop to the USA, shall be registered with the Directorate Plant Health and Quality (DPHQ).

Before any field can be registered representative soil samples must be drawn in accordance with the “Sampling procedure for Golden Cyst nematode” (Appendix 1). Samples shall be submitted for laboratory tests with either the DPHQ, Division Plant Health Services in Stellenbosch or the ARC Plant Protection Research Institute (ARC-PPRI), Nematology Laboratories at Rietondale, Pretoria. All production fields shall be sampled and tested at least once in a 12 (twelve) month period, prior to export of the relevant bulbs.

Soil samples shall be tested for the following nematodes:

- Globodera rostochiensis*
- G. pallida*
- Ditylenchus* spp.
- Aphelenchoides* spp.
- Other plant harmful nematodes

The fields shall be registered only after tested and found free from plant parasitic nematodes.

Phytosanitary evaluation

Amaryllis bulbs may only be planted after the fields had been registered. The producer must submit a written schedule of planting dates to the DPHQ and confirm in writing within 10 working days of the planting on a specific date on a specific registered unit.

Field inspections

At least two field inspections shall be conducted during the growing season. At least 10% of the cultivated field shall be inspected. The field shall be inspected for the occurrence for those pests on the SA pest list (Appendix 2), USDA-APHIS actionable pests as well as the occurrence of any other pest including possible exotic pests. Should any suspicious symptoms or infestations be observed, samples of these shall be drawn and submitted to DPHQ plant health laboratories for evaluation and identification. A complete inspection report shall be drafted and a copy shall be provided to the producer or his agent. Should any pests that are not listed on the USDA/APHIS Pest list for actionable and non-actionable pests, are found, the USDA/APHIS Pretoria office shall be notified thereof immediately.

During visits to the production units the following schedules and records shall be evaluated:

- Details and reports of the plant protection programme applied to date of visit,
- Details of the sanitation programme followed to date of visit, and
- Should any of these records be incomplete, the registration of the relevant unit/s for the export of Amaryllis bulbs to the USA shall be withdrawn.

Should any listed actionable pests be found the relevant production unit will be rejected and the registration of such unit/s for the export of Amaryllis bulbs to the USA, shall be withdrawn.

Dry bulb inspections

The producer or his agent shall inform DPHQ in writing when dry bulb lots are ready for inspection.

Inspection of dry bulb lots to ensure compliance with:

- SA-USA Amaryllis bulb preclearance work plan (Appendix 3); and
- The producer or his agent shall provide proof that the dry bulbs were produced on the registered production units.

Any Amaryllis dry bulb lots that do not comply with the USA phytosanitary measures or the SA quality standards shall be rejected for export to the USA and shall not be presented to the TEAM for final preclearance inspection.

Preclearance inspection

The SA USA TEAM shall inspect dry bulb lots in accordance with the Amaryllis bulb preclearance programme. DPHQ shall provide all relevant documentation regarding registration and phytosanitary evaluation (including all field and dry bulb inspection reports as well as laboratory evaluation results) and any other relevant information required for effective preclearance evaluation and certification.

Phytosanitary certification

The DPHQ shall issue phytosanitary certificates for those Amaryllis bulb lots that comply with the USA phytosanitary measures. The following information must be declared on the phytosanitary certificate:

1. Details of the mother vessel and/or container and/or flight details
2. Details regarding the port of entry in the USA.