Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Fresh Apple from Chile

(In case of any discrepancy between the Chinese text and the English translation thereof, the Chinese text shall govern.)
Promulgated by COA on March 31, 2011

1. The importation of apples (Malus spp.) from Chile to Taiwan shall be regulated pursuant to the “Quarantine Requirements for The Importation of Plants or Plant Products into The Republic of China” and “Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Fresh Fruits from Chile” and shall be in compliance with the following requirements.

2. Definitions (For the purposes of the quarantine requirements):
2.1 “Codling moth” includes all stages (egg, larva, pupa and adult) of the codling moth (Cydia pomonella).
2.2 “Lot” is a set of units of packed or exported apples to Taiwan.
2.3 “Supplying orchard” is a production site on which apples are to be grown. It can have different varieties of apples.
2.4 “Export season” means a period of time for export of apples from Chile, from November 1 to October 31 of next year.

3. Requirements for supplying orchards
3.1 The supplying orchards must be certified in GAP. Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (hereinafter referred to as SAG) and Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (hereinafter referred to as BAPHIQ) can check this certification.
3.2 The supplying orchards must accomplish one of the following measures to control codling moth:
3.2.1 Codling moth sex pheromone traps network: Traps must be installed in the fields of supplying orchards before apples reach their full bloom stage. For supplying orchards up to 8 hectares, one trap per hectare is required, whilst for supplying orchards exceeding that
area, one additional trap will be placed every 2 hectares. To detect the presence of codling moth, the inspection frequency will be every three days. If it is detected that the population density of codling moths reaches 3 or more moths per trap per week, effective control shall be taken immediately. Pheromone lure must be renewed constantly. Complete records of monitoring and control must be kept for inspection.

3.2.2 Effective and continuous control measures: If no sex pheromone trap is placed in the supplying orchards, effective and continuous control measures will be taken to prevent infestation, i.e. periodic sprays of pesticides specifically recommended for codling moth or other control measures approved by SAG. These control activities will be supervised by SAG.

3.3 Supplying orchards in compliance with the aforementioned requirements should be registered by SAG. This register list will include the orchard name or code, along with the identification of the region, province and commune where the supplying orchard is located.

4. Requirements for cold storage warehouses

4.1 Cold storage warehouses must be legally registered by SAG.

4.2 All the fruit stored in the cold storage warehouse must come from the registered supplying orchards. If fresh fruits from non-approved orchards are stored in the same warehouse, complete separation from those fruits from supplying orchards is required.

5. Requirements for packinghouses

5.1 The packinghouses must be legally registered by SAG.

5.2 The packinghouses shall be equipped with insect-proof equipments. Windows or air holes must be covered with screen of no more than 1.6 mm fine meshes. Entrances or doors shall be equipped with air curtains, rubber curtains, or other insect-proof equipment.
5.3 Packinghouses must be equipped with sorting apparatus and sufficient lights for performing inspections.

5.4 Packinghouses shall have qualified personnel to assist in quarantine inspection.

5.5 Packinghouses shall provide adequate apparatuses and equipments to facilitate inspectors to perform inspections, pest identification and other related work.

5.6 Before the packing season, appropriate pest control measures shall be taken to disinfest live plant pests inside the packinghouse. If necessary, sterilization shall be undertaken to ensure cleanliness in the packinghouse.

5.7 Fresh fruit processed in the packinghouses shall come from supplying orchards and cold storage warehouses approved for export to Taiwan.

5.8 About packing materials, if fruit packages have air holes, they shall be either covered with screen of no more than 1.6 mm fine meshes, or transported by closed vehicle to prevent incursion of pests.

5.9 SAG shall provide the list of packinghouses and their registered codes to BAPHIQ.

5.10 Before the packing season, packinghouses shall be inspected by SAG inspectors to ensure that all requirements are met. BAPHIQ may send inspector(s) to jointly perform the inspections.

6. Pre-inspection procedures

6.1 Fresh fruit shall be sorted at least twice before packing by technicians who have plant pest control training to remove all the deformed or damaged fruit. This activity will be conducted according to the following scheme:

6.1.1 First sampling - before packing process

6.1.1.1 Before the packing process of the fruit lot that comes from supplying orchards approved for export to Taiwan, 600 fruit sample will be taken for inspection. At least 50 fruit will be cut for inspection.
6.1.1.2 Fruit selection will focus on damaged fruit, likely to be caused by codling moth. If damaged fruit are not present, the sample will be taken randomly.
6.1.1.3 This sampling activity will be conducted by the packinghouse and supervised by SAG.
6.1.1.4 If two or more fruits with codling moth damage or two or more dead codling moth are detected, the lot will be rejected for export to Taiwan.
6.1.1.5 If any live codling moth is detected during this pre-inspection, the lot will be rejected and the apple sourcing orchard will be withdrawn for export to Taiwan during the remainder of the season.
6.1.1.6 Appropriate record keeping will be taken, using SAG’s specific forms.

6.1.2 Second sampling - at packing line
6.1.2.1 In the packing line, fruit will be taken for inspection every one hour.
6.1.2.2 Fruit selection will focus on damaged fruit, likely to be caused by codling moth. These fruit will be cut, looking for live larvae.
6.1.2.3 During the process, at least 100 damaged fruit will be taken for sampling.
6.1.2.4 This sampling activity shall be conducted by the packinghouse and supervised by SAG.
6.1.2.5 If two or more fruits with codling moth damage or two or more dead codling moth are detected, the lot will be rejected for export to Taiwan.
6.1.2.6 If any live codling moth is detected during this pre-inspection, the lot will be rejected and the supplying orchard will be withdrawn for export to Taiwan during the remainder of the season.
6.1.2.7 Appropriate record keeping will be taken, using SAG’s specific forms.

6.2 Culled fruits shall be placed in containers and discarded or
destroyed every day. All the security measures implemented in the packing process will be constantly supervised by SAG.

6.3 Measures shall be taken to prevent re-infestation of pests when packed fruit are shipped from the packinghouses to aircrafts, vessels or containers.

7. Export inspection procedure

7.1 The packed fruit must be inspected by SAG.

7.2 The sampling level will be 2.5% or higher, according to the following scheme:

7.2.1 Lots up to 1500 cases: 38 cases will be sampled.

7.2.2 Lots over 1500 cases: 2.5% of cases for every lot will be sampled.

7.2.3 All fruit of every sampled case will be inspected.

7.2.4 For each sampling case, at least two fruits will be taken and cut, looking for live larvae.

7.3 If two or more fruits with codling moth damage or two or more dead codling moths are detected, the lot will be rejected for export to Taiwan.

7.4 If any living codling moth or other quarantine pests are found during inspection, the lot will be rejected for export to Taiwan and the sourcing orchard will be withdrawn for export to Taiwan during the remainder of the season.

7.5 If any living codling moth is found during inspection, the supplying packinghouse shall be temporarily suspended from exporting apples to Taiwan until SAG clarifies the cause of the situation and approval for export to be granted by BAPHIQ.

8. Export certification

8.1 Apples approved and exported to Taiwan will be accompanied with a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by SAG. The outside of fruit packages shall be covered with SAG’s quarantine tape or seal.

8.2 The Phytosanitary Certificate will contain the following additional declaration: THE FRUIT HAS BEEN INSPECTED AND FOUND FREE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY,
CODLING MOTH, FRANKLINIELLA OCCIDENTALIS and BREVIPALPUS CHILENSIS.

8.3 If the requirements established by BAPHIQ change, this additional declaration could be amended accordingly with the new requirements.

8.4 The Phytosanitary Certificate will be accompanied by the “Annex report” document, which will contain information about the supplying orchard (name or code), packinghouse (name or code) and the inspection date.

8.5 Fresh apple consignments shall not transit through other countries or districts where the codling moth or other designated quarantine pests are known to occur. If the consignments are in need of transit through these areas, they have to follow the “Quarantine Requirements for Transshipment of Plants or Plant Products through Countries or Districts Where The Quarantine Pests are Known to Occur”.

8.6 During shipping and upon arrival, the lock of the ship’s compartment or seal of the container shall not be unlocked or broken before the BAPHIQ inspectors are on site.

9. Import inspection

9.1 BAPHIQ will verify that the Phytosanitary Certificate issued by SAG is in compliance with the aforementioned quarantine requirements.

9.2 Procedures, methods, and sampling for import inspection shall follow the “Plant Protection and Quarantine Act” and other quarantine regulations.

9.3 If the consignment is not accompanied with the Phytosanitary Certificate issued by SAG, or it fails to comply with the quarantine requirements, the consignment shall be denied entry.

9.4 If any live codling moth is found during inspection for the first time, the following measures will be applied

9.4.1 BAPHIQ will formally notify SAG the interception and
provide the copy of Phytosanitary Certificate, digital photographs of intercepted codling moth and relevant carton label for the consignment.

9.4.2 The consignment will be rejected. The sourcing orchard and the packinghouse will be withdrawn for export to Taiwan for the remainder of the season. Any shipment from the sourcing packinghouse will remain eligible for export to Taiwan if accomplishing the following conditions

9.4.2.1 The Phytosanitary Certificate was issued and its inspection date is prior to suspension date.

9.4.2.2 The consignment was loaded on board traveling to Taiwan within 3 days from the suspension date.

9.4.3 Additionally, the sampling level at packinghouses other than the sourcing packinghouse will be increased as follows

9.4.3.1 First sampling - before packing process: 800 fruit will be selected for inspection.

9.4.3.2 At least 100 fruit will be cut for inspection in the first sampling – before packing process.

9.5 If a second interception occurs, in addition to provisions 9.4.1 to 9.4.3, the sampling level at SAG’s export inspection will be increased as follows

9.5.1 The sampling level for inspection will be 3%.

9.5.2 Four fruit from every sampled case will be cut for inspection.

9.6 If a third interception occurs, provision 10 will be applied.

9.7 If any other plant pest of quarantine significance occurs in Chile, and it poses risks to the production safety of Taiwan’s agricultural, the “Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Fresh Apple from Chile” could be suspended by BAPHIQ at any time.

10. Suspension/Re-instatement

10.1 If any live codling moth is intercepted a third time by BAPHIQ in the export season on the import inspection, BAPHIQ will
notify SAG to suspend the apples export program to Taiwan.

10.2 Once SAG received BAPHIQ’s notification, SAG will suspend any further apple export process to Taiwan. Any shipment from non-sourcing packinghouses will remain eligible for export to Taiwan, but be subject to a more stringent inspection by BAPHIQ, if accomplishing the following conditions

10.2.1 The Phytosanitary Certificate was issued and its inspection date is prior to suspension date.

10.2.2 The consignment is loaded on board traveling to Taiwan within 14 days from the inspection date.

10.3 SAG will conduct an investigation about the interception and make a report about the situation. Also SAG can propose improvement to the requirements. Once the report is finished, SAG will send it to BAPHIQ.

10.4 After SAG sends the report to Taiwan, BAPHIQ will review the measures established for the export of apple fruit and send inspector(s) to conduct an on-site verification of the apple export process. The cost associated with this activity will be met by Chile.

10.5 The suspension will be lifted after BAPHIQ reviews and approves the SAG report and the on-site verification of any necessary actions taken to correct non-compliance.

11. Special requirements

11.1 Two months prior to each apple export season, SAG will formally invite BAPHIQ to send inspector(s) to visit Chile to verify the systems approach is operating in accordance with the requirements. The costs associated with such a visit will be met by Chile.

11.2 BAPHIQ and SAG could discuss for any improvement of this quarantine requirements.