**Guidelines for the importation of small lots of seeds**

Small lots of seeds may be imported into The Bahamas without a phytosanitary certificate under the following conditions:

1. An import permit specifically for small lots of seed from the Department of Agriculture must be obtained that specifies the Bahamas' import requirements.
2. The seed is not an invasive species; is not a parasitic plant; does not require an additional declaration on a phytosanitary certificate; is not genetically modified; is not pelleted, coated, or imbedded in growing media, seed tape, cloth, or similar materials.
3. The nursery where the seed is produced must be in compliance with standards approved by the International Seed Federation (ISF).
4. The seed is treated as to disinfect them from seed-borne or soil-borne pathogenic organisms and storage insects.
5. If the seed is regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), it meets the additional requirements.
6. The seed meets the following packaging and shipping requirements:

	1. A typed seed list/invoice should accompany each consignment with the name of the collector/shipper, the botanical names (at least to genus, preferably to species level) listed alphabetically and a code for each lot. If different lots within a consignment originate in different countries or places, or if lots are mixed, blended or bulked, all countries or places should be indicated.
	2. There are a maximum of 50 seeds of 1 taxon (taxonomic category such as genus, species, cultivar, etc.) per packet; or a maximum weight not to exceed 10 grams of seed of 1 taxon per packet;
	3. There are a maximum of 50 seed packets per shipment;
	4. The seeds are securely packaged in packets or envelopes and sealed to prevent spillage pesticides;
	5. Any chemicals applied to the seeds should also be stated on the package;
	6. The shipment is free from soil, plant material other than seed, foreign matter or debris, seeds in the fruit or seed pod, and living organisms such as parasitic plants, pathogens, insects, snails, mites (extraneous matter); and
7. Upon arrival to the Bahamas, seed shipments will be inspected to ensure they meet import requirements. If the consignment does not meet the conditions above, then the shipment will be refused entry.

The same guidelines also apply to the travelling public, as passengers transiting the airport

must abide by the rules and regulations of meeting the documentary requirements - Import Permit and Phytosanitary Certificate to ensure compliance.