



Media Release

PLANT QUARANTINE SERVICES COMMENCES THE ISSUANCE OF APPROVED PLANT IMPORT PERMITS ELECTRONICALLY

13 May 2020: - Members of the public are advised that effective Monday 11th May, 2020, the processing and transmitting of approved Plant Import Permits to clients will be done electronically by the Plant Quarantine Service (PQS) Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries.

As such, the trading community is asked to note that: (i) Import Permit Applications will be processed via the Ministry of Trade and Industry's TTBizLink Platform (www.ttbizlink.gov.tt); and (ii) Digitally Stamped and Signed Approved Plant Import Permits will be e-mailed to the applicants directly. There will therefore be no collection of Plant Import Permits at PQS, Centeno. Persons are therefore reminded to regularly check the TTBizLink system for updates on the status of their application which will be processed within three (3) working days.

This measure is in line with the national guidelines issued by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to safeguard the health and safety of the nation's citizenry in respect of the global COVID-19 pandemic. While this measure will enable Business Continuity in the current circumstances, this will remain in effect beyond the pandemic.

This intervention is not only in line with physical distancing recommendations intended to minimize the spread of COVID-19, but will further enhance the speed of delivery of Plant Import Permits by streamlining the business processes of PQS.

The PQS unit continues to remain available to the trading community and can be contacted via any of the following avenues: telephone at 642-0718, 397-4495 or 280-7938; and email at plantquarantine.centeno@gov.tt.

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