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### **Exporting your plant products out of the country? Growing season inspections may be required.**

Since the start of the growing season is just around the corner, this is a good time to remind people about the process of certifying plant products being exported out of the United States. If growers think they might want to export their plant products (i.e. grain, plants, seeds, etc.) out of the country, they should contact Jerry Cochran at (303)239-4153 or [jerry.cochran@ag.state.co.us](mailto:jerry.cochran@ag.state.co.us) to find out if any field inspections, performed during the growing season, are required to satisfy the importing country's requirements.

Field inspections are not always required but sometimes they are. It is critical to let the Department know ahead of time what products you might export and to what foreign country to determine the best course of action.

If these products are destined to Mexico, Canada, or an overseas country, they most likely will have to be exported under a Federal Phytosanitary Certificate (FPC). An FPC is a document that is produced after the Colorado Department of Agriculture inspects the products and determines that they are not infested with insects or diseases that have been designated as harmful by the receiving country. These federal certificates are prepared by the Department under an agreement with an agency within USDA known as the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

For more information, visit [www.colorado.gov/ag/plants](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/plants) and click on "Phytosanitary Certification Program."