The Agriculture Inspection Process

Primary inspection

Passenger deplanes and proceeds to passport control

- Passenger claims baggage
- CPB officer reviews customs documents and interviews passenger
- CBP agriculture K-9 team searches baggage area

Secondary inspection

- Passenger is referred to secondary agriculture inspection
- Determine whether passenger could be carrying a prohibited agriculture item
  - No
  - Maybe
  - Yes

Baggage is screened

- Interview with agriculture specialist
  - Passenger is given an opportunity to surrender agriculture items
  - Does passenger questioning or baggage X-ray show possible agriculture item?
    - No
    - Yes

- Passenger baggage is hand searched
  - Does agriculture specialist find a prohibited agriculture item?
    - No
    - Yes

- Seize prohibited item
  - Agriculture Specialist may impose fine
  - Passenger and baggage released

Source: GAO with CBP update

*Prohibited items are destroyed according to government regulations. Unknown detected pests are sent to an APHIS identifier.