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# JAMAICA’S NPPO

# ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

The Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspection Branch is a part of the Technical Services Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Our mandate is twofold; to prevent the entry, establishment and spread of exotic pests in Jamaica per the provisions of The Plant Quarantine Act of 1995 and its Regulations and to ensure that only the highest quality produce is exported and imported.

## Our Mission

* To protect our plant life from depredation of destructive pests by preventing their entry, establishment and spread and thereby increasing agriculture productivity in order to improve the economy of our country;
* To facilitate export certification of plants and plant products for safe global trade in agricultural commodities and thereby fulfilling our legal obligations under the international agreements and
* To adopt safe quarantine practices to protect our environment.

## Our Vision

 To provide:

* Dynamic quarantine programmes to protect our biodiversity;
* Sound inspection systems to safe guard the interests of farming community and the consumers and overseas marketing agencies and
* Sustained quality export certification to allow our competitiveness in the global trade in Agriculture.

## The Branch’s Units

* **The Export Complexes** – There are two (2) Exports Complexes
* **The Export /Import Inspection Unit** is responsible for the inspection of all agricultural produces leaving and entering the country. Inspections are conducted at the Export Complexes, sea and air ports and exporters’ facilities island wide.
* **The Certification and Compliance Unit** among others is responsible for the inspection and certification of facilities for exports and imports, marine vessels, aircrafts. Monitor markets and supermarkets for illegal imports and monitor disposal of international garbage.
* **Pest Risk Analysis Unit** conducts and prepares pest Risk analysis for crops and pests, prepares market access reports and fact sheets for specific pests. Pest Risk Analysis is a framework for organizing biological and other scientific and economic information to calculate risk. This assessment of risk is used to identify appropriate measures to reduce risk to an acceptable level.

# EXISTING CAPACITY – FININCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

* The Branch has a staff complement of fifty-three (53) with qualifications ranging from Secondary level to Master’s Degree.