

New requirements for Wood Packaging Material

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Background

Agency: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

Rule: ISPM 15
"Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade"

Publication date: March, 2002

Basis for regulating

Wood packaging material is a pathway for the introduction and spread of pests. This because sometimes they may not have enough processing or treatment to kill the pests.

In addition to these the re-use of the wood packaging material makes really difficult the determination of its phytosanitary status.

Objective

- Reduce the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests (those that may cause damage to a country's economics).
- Describes the phytosanitary measures that may be applied by the different countries (known as the marking).

Countries that have signed the Agreement

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| • Albania | • Belize | • Chad | • Dominican Republic |
| • Algeria | • Bhutan | • Chile | • Ecuador |
| • Argentina | • Bolivia | • Colombia | • Egypt |
| • Australia | • Bosnia and Herzegovina | • Costa Rica | • El Salvador |
| • Azerbaijan | • Brazil | • Croatia | • Ecuatorial Guinea |
| • Bahamas | • Bulgaria | • Cuba | • Estonia |
| • Bahrain | • Burkina Faso | • Cyprus | • Ethiopia |
| • Bangladesh | • Cambodia | • Czech Republic | • Finland |
| • Barbados | • Canada | • Korea | • France |
| • Belgium | • Grenada | • Denmark | • Germany |
| • Greece | | | |

Countries that have signed the Agreement

- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- Lithuania
- Luxemburgo
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Mali
- Malta
- Mauritania
- Mexico
- Morocco
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Panama
- New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal

Countries that have signed the Agreement

- Rusia
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia and Montenegro
- Sierra Leone
- Slovenia
- Salomon Islands
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- St. Lucia
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Thailand
- Togo
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- England
- United States
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- Yemen
- Zambia

Wood packaging types

ISPM 15 rule recognizes 2 types of wood packaging material:

1. Regulated Wood Packaging Material:

- Coniferous and non-coniferous raw wood packaging material that may serve as a pathway for plant pests posing a threat mainly to living trees.

2. Not Regulated Wood Packaging Material:

- Wood packaging made wholly of wood-based products that have been created using glue, heat and pressure or a combination of them.

Regulated wood packaging material

- Pallets
- Dunnage
- Crating
- Packing blocks
- Drums
- Cases
- Load boards
- Pallet collars
- Skids

Not regulated wood packaging material

- Plywood
- Particle board
- Oriented strand board
- Veneer peeler cores
- Sawdust
- Wood wool
- Shavings
- Raw wood cut into thin pieces

Dunnages

Since dunnages are associated with almost all shipments, there are two options to approve them:

1. Marked them in accordance with the rule.
2. Demonstrated that is made from bark-free wood that is free from pests and signs of live pests.

Approved measures

Heat Treatment (Ht):

- Wood packaging material should be heated in accordance with a specific time-temperature.

Methyl Bromide (Mb) Fumigation:

- The wood packaging material should be fumigated with methyl bromide.

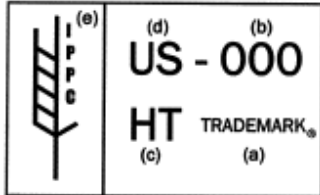
These procedures are accepted only if done by an accredited agency.

Marking

Wood packaging material subjected to an approved measure should display a specified mark. Markings should be:

- According to the model
- Legible
- Permanent and not transferable
- Placed in a visible location, preferably on at least two opposite sides of the article being certified.

Marking



- a) Trademark: the identifying logo, symbol or name of the accredited agency.
- b) Facility Identification: product manufacturer name, brand or assigned facility number.
- c) Heat treat mark
- d) Country code: the two letter ISO country abbreviation
- e) Approved International symbol for compliant wood packaging material

Costs

The costs of registry or inspection of the wood packaging material will be charged according to the actual fee established by the phytosanitary authority

Procedures used prior to Export

The phytosanitary authority of the exporting country has responsibility for ensuring that systems for exports meet the requirements. It includes:

- Monitoring certification and marking systems.
- Making inspections
- Auditing of commercial companies that apply the measures

Procedures upon Import

The phytosanitary authority has to verify that every wood packaging material that enters inside the territory fulfills with the regulations of this rule and that it is not infest with pests.

Procedures upon Import

If wood packaging material does not carry the required mark or evidence of live pests is found, the authority should:

- Treat the wood packaging (HT or MB)
- Refuse its entry
- Burn it
- Process it
- Bury (at least at least 1 meter of depth)

Other packaging options

The following packaging is not regulated and can be a good replacement for wood packing:

- Corrugated cardboard
- Plywood
- Oriented strand board

Regulations and implementation dates by Country

Colombia Phytosanitary Authority: ICA

Rule	Notification Date	Implementation Date
Resolution N° 01079	June 2004	January 2005

USA

Phytosanitary Authority: APHIS-USDA

Rule	Notification Date	Implementation Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wood Packaging Material Policy• Importation of Solid Wood Packing Material Proposed Rule	April/May 2004	September 16/2005

Chile

Phytosanitary Authority: SAG

Rule	Notification Date	Implementation Date
In process		June/2005

Ecuador
Phytosanitary Authority: SESA

Rule	Notification Date	Implementation Date
Resolución 012 SESA	January 2004	

México
Phytosanitary Authority: SEMARNAT

Rule	Notification Date	Implementation Date
NOM-EM-144-SEMARNAT	January 2004	September 16/ 2005

Regulations

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