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Protecting the world's plant resources from pests

Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR
PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

ISPM 15

**Regulation of wood packaging material
in international trade**

Produced by the Secretariat of the
International Plant Protection Convention
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Adoption

This standard was first adopted by the Fourth Session of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in March 2002 as *Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade*. Modifications to Annex 1 were adopted by the First Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in April 2006. The first revision was adopted by the Fourth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in March–April 2009 as the present standard.

Revision to Annex 1 together with associated change in Annex 2, was adopted by the Eighth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in April 2013.

INTRODUCTION

Scope

This standard describes phytosanitary measures that reduce the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests associated with the movement in international trade of wood packaging material made from raw wood. Wood packaging material covered by this standard includes dunnage but excludes wood packaging made from wood processed in such a way that it is free from pests (e.g. plywood).

The phytosanitary measures described in this standard are not intended to provide ongoing protection from contaminating pests or other organisms.

Environmental Statement

Pests associated with wood packaging material are known to have negative impacts on forest health and biodiversity. Implementation of this standard is considered to reduce significantly the spread of pests and subsequently their negative impacts. In the absence of alternative treatments being available for certain situations or to all countries, or the availability of other appropriate packaging materials, methyl bromide treatment is included in this standard. Methyl bromide is known to deplete the ozone layer. An IPPC Recommendation on the *Replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure* (CPM, 2008) has been adopted in relation to this issue. Alternative treatments that are more environmentally friendly are being pursued.

References

The present standard refers to International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). ISPMs are available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) at <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/ispm>.

CPM. 2008. *Replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure*. IPPC Recommendation. In *Report of the Third Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, Rome, 7–11 April 2008*, Appendix 6. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

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ISO 3166-1:2006. *Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 1: Country codes*. Geneva, International Organization for Standardization (available at http://www.iso.org/iso/country_codes/iso_3166_code_lists.htm).

UNEP. 2000. *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*. Nairobi, Ozone Secretariat, United Nations Environment Programme. ISBN: 92-807-1888-6 (<http://www.unep.org/ozone/pdfs/Montreal-Protocol2000.pdf>).

Definitions

Definitions of phytosanitary terms used in this standard can be found in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*).

Outline of Requirements

Approved phytosanitary measures that significantly reduce the risk of pest introduction and spread via wood packaging material consist of the use of debarked wood (with a specified tolerance for remaining bark) and the application of approved treatments (as prescribed in Annex 1). The application of the recognized mark (as prescribed in Annex 2) ensures that wood packaging material subjected to the approved treatments is readily identifiable. The approved treatments, the mark and its use are described.

The national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) of exporting and importing countries have specific responsibilities. Treatment and application of the mark must always be under the authority of the NPPO. NPPOs that authorize the use of the mark should supervise (or, as a minimum, audit or review) the application of the treatments, use of the mark and its application, as appropriate, by producer/treatment providers and should establish inspection or monitoring and auditing procedures. Specific requirements apply to wood packaging material that is repaired or remanufactured. NPPOs of importing countries should accept the approved phytosanitary measures as the basis for authorizing entry of wood packaging material without further wood packaging material-related phytosanitary import requirements and may verify on import that the requirements of the standard have been met. Where wood packaging material does not comply with the requirements of this standard, NPPOs are also responsible for measures implemented and notification of non-compliance, as appropriate.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Basis for Regulation

Wood originating from living or dead trees may be infested by pests. Wood packaging material is frequently made of raw wood that may not have undergone sufficient processing or treatment to remove or kill pests and therefore remains a pathway for the introduction and spread of quarantine pests. Dunnage in particular has been shown to present a high risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests. Furthermore, wood packaging material is very often reused, repaired or remanufactured (as described in section 4.3). The true origin of any piece of wood packaging material is difficult to determine, and thus its phytosanitary status cannot easily be ascertained. Therefore the normal process of undertaking pest risk analysis to determine if measures are necessary, and the strength of such measures, is frequently not possible for wood packaging material. For this reason, this standard describes internationally accepted measures that may be applied to wood packaging material by all countries to reduce significantly the risk of introduction and spread of most quarantine pests that may be associated with that material.

2. Regulated Wood Packaging Material

These guidelines cover all forms of wood packaging material that may serve as a pathway for pests posing a pest risk mainly to living trees. They cover wood packaging material such as crates, boxes, packing cases, dunnage¹, pallets, cable drums and spools/reels, which can be present in almost any imported consignment, including consignments that would not normally be subject to phytosanitary inspection.

2.1 Exemptions

The following articles are of sufficiently low risk to be exempted from the provisions of this standard²:

- wood packaging material made entirely from thin wood (6 mm or less in thickness)
- wood packaging made wholly of processed wood material, such as plywood, particle board, oriented strand board or veneer that has been created using glue, heat or pressure, or a combination thereof
- barrels for wine and spirit that have been heated during manufacture
- gift boxes for wine, cigars and other commodities made from wood that has been processed and/or manufactured in a way that renders it free of pests
- sawdust, wood shavings and wood wool
- wood components permanently attached to freight vehicles and containers.

3. Phytosanitary Measures for Wood Packaging Material

This standard describes phytosanitary measures (including treatments) that have been approved for wood packaging material and provides for the approval of new or revised treatments.

3.1 Approved phytosanitary measures

The approved phytosanitary measures described in this standard consist of phytosanitary procedures including treatments and marking of the wood packaging material. The application of the mark renders the use of a phytosanitary certificate unnecessary as it indicates that the internationally accepted

¹ Consignments of wood (i.e. timber/lumber) may be supported by dunnage that is constructed from wood of the same type and quality and that meets the same phytosanitary requirements as the wood in the consignment. In such cases, the dunnage may be considered as part of the consignment and may not be considered as wood packaging material in the context of this standard.

² Not all types of gift boxes or barrels are constructed in a manner that renders them pest free, and therefore certain types may be considered to be within the scope of this standard. Where appropriate, specific arrangements related to these types of commodities may be established between importing and exporting NPPOs.

phytosanitary measures have been applied. These phytosanitary measures should be accepted by all NPPOs as the basis for authorizing the entry of wood packaging material without further specific requirements. Required phytosanitary measures beyond an approved measure as described in this standard require technical justification.

The treatments described in Annex 1 are considered to be significantly effective against most pests of living trees associated with wood packaging material used in international trade. These treatments are combined with the use of debarked wood for construction of wood packaging, which also acts to reduce the likelihood of reinfestation by pests of living trees. These measures have been adopted based on consideration of:

- the range of pests that may be affected
- the efficacy of the treatment
- the technical and/or commercial feasibility.

There are three main activities involved in the production of approved wood packaging material (including dunnage): treating, manufacturing and marking. These activities can be done by separate entities, or one entity can do several or all of these activities. For ease of reference, this standard refers to producers (those that manufacture the wood packaging material and may apply the mark to appropriately treated wood packaging material) and treatment providers (those that apply the approved treatments and may apply the mark to appropriately treated wood packaging material).

Wood packaging material subjected to the approved measures shall be identified by application of an official mark in accordance with Annex 2. This mark consists of a dedicated symbol used in conjunction with codes identifying the specific country, the responsible producer or treatment provider, and the treatment applied. Hereafter, all components of such a mark are referred to collectively as “the mark”. The internationally recognized, non-language-specific mark facilitates identification of treated wood packaging material during inspection prior to export, at the point of entry, or elsewhere. NPPOs should accept the mark as referred to in Annex 2 as the basis for authorizing the entry of wood packaging material without further specific requirements.

Debarked wood must be used for the construction of wood packaging material, in addition to application of one of the adopted treatments specified in Annex 1. A tolerance for remaining bark is specified in Annex 1.

3.2 Approval of new or revised treatments

As new technical information becomes available, existing treatments may be reviewed and modified, and new alternative treatments and/or treatment schedule(s) for wood packaging material may be adopted by the CPM. ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*) provides guidance on the IPPC’s process for approval of treatments. If a new treatment or a revised treatment schedule is adopted for wood packaging material and incorporated into this ISPM, material already treated under the previous treatment and/or schedule does not need to be re-treated or re-marked.

3.3 Alternative bilateral arrangements

NPPOs may accept measures other than those listed in Annex 1 by bilateral arrangement. In such cases, the mark shown in Annex 2 must not be used unless all requirements of this standard have been met.

4. Responsibilities of NPPOs

To meet the objective of preventing the introduction and spread of pests, exporting and importing contracting parties and their NPPOs have responsibilities (as outlined in Articles I, IV and VII of the IPPC). In relation to this standard, specific responsibilities are outlined below.

4.1 Regulatory considerations

Treatment and application of the mark (and/or related systems) must always be under the authority of the NPPO. NPPOs that authorize use of the mark have the responsibility for ensuring that all systems authorized and approved for implementation of this standard meet all necessary requirements described within the standard, and that wood packaging material (or wood that is to be made into wood packaging material) bearing the mark has been treated and/or manufactured in accordance with this standard. Responsibilities include:

- authorization, registration and accreditation, as appropriate
- monitoring treatment and marking systems implemented in order to verify compliance (further information on related responsibilities is provided in ISPM 7 (*Phytosanitary certification system*))
- inspection, establishing verification procedures and auditing where appropriate (further information is provided in ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*)).

The NPPO should supervise (or, as a minimum, audit or review) the application of the treatments, and authorize use of the mark and its application as appropriate. To prevent untreated or insufficiently/incorrectly treated wood packaging material bearing the mark, treatment should be carried out prior to application of the mark.

4.2 Application and use of the mark

The specified marks applied to wood packaging material treated in accordance with this standard must conform to the requirements described in Annex 2.

4.3 Treatment and marking requirements for wood packaging material that is reused, repaired or remanufactured

NPPOs of countries where wood packaging material that bears the mark described in Annex 2 is repaired or remanufactured have responsibility for ensuring and verifying that systems related to export of such wood packaging material comply fully with this standard.

4.3.1 Reuse of wood packaging material

A unit of wood packaging material that has been treated and marked in accordance with this standard and that has not been repaired, remanufactured or otherwise altered does not require re-treatment or re-application of the mark throughout the service life of the unit.

4.3.2 Repaired wood packaging material

Repaired wood packaging material is wood packaging material that has had up to approximately one third of its components removed and replaced. NPPOs must ensure that when marked wood packaging material is repaired, only wood treated in accordance with this standard is used for the repair, or wood constructed or fabricated from processed wood material (as described in section 2.1). Where treated wood is used for the repair, each added component must be individually marked in accordance with this standard.

Wood packaging material bearing multiple marks may create problems in determining the origin of the wood packaging material if pests are found associated with it. It is recommended that NPPOs of countries where wood packaging material is repaired limit the number of different marks that may appear on a single unit of wood packaging material. Therefore NPPOs of countries where wood packaging material is repaired may require the repaired wood packaging material to have previous marks obliterated, the unit to be re-treated in accordance with Annex 1, and the mark then applied in accordance with Annex 2. If methyl bromide is used for the re-treatment, the information in the IPPC Recommendation on the *Replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure* (CPM, 2008) should be taken into account.

In circumstances where there is any doubt that all components of a unit of repaired wood packaging material have been treated in accordance with this standard, or the origin of the unit of wood packaging

material or its components is difficult to ascertain, the NPPOs of countries where wood packaging material is repaired should require the repaired wood packaging material to be re-treated, destroyed, or otherwise prevented from moving in international trade as wood packaging material compliant with this standard. In the case of re-treatment, any previous applications of the mark must be permanently obliterated (e.g. by covering with paint or grinding). After re-treatment, the mark must be applied anew in accordance with this standard.

4.3.3 Remanufactured wood packaging material

If a unit of wood packaging material has had more than approximately one third of its components replaced, the unit is considered to be remanufactured. In this process, various components (with additional reworking if necessary) may be combined and then reassembled into further wood packaging material. Remanufactured wood packaging material may therefore incorporate both new and previously used components.

Remanufactured wood packaging material must have any previous applications of the mark permanently obliterated (e.g. by covering with paint or grinding). Remanufactured wood packaging material must be re-treated and the mark must then be applied anew in accordance with this standard.

4.4 Transit

Where consignments moving in transit have wood packaging material that does not meet the requirements of this standard, NPPOs of countries of transit may require measures to ensure that wood packaging material does not present an unacceptable risk. Further guidance on transit arrangements is provided in ISPM 25 (*Consignments in transit*).

4.5 Procedures upon import

Since wood packaging materials are associated with most shipments, including those not considered to be the target of phytosanitary inspections in their own right, cooperation by NPPOs with organizations not usually involved with verification of whether the phytosanitary import requirements have been met is important. For example, cooperation with Customs organizations and other stakeholders will help NPPOs in receiving information on the presence of wood packaging material. This is important to ensure effectiveness in detecting potential non-compliance of wood packaging material.

4.6 Phytosanitary measures for non-compliance at point of entry

Relevant information on non-compliance and emergency action is provided in ISPM 20 (*Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system*) and in ISPM 13 (*Guidelines for the notification of non-compliance and emergency action*). Taking into account the frequent re-use of wood packaging material, NPPOs should consider that the non-compliance identified may have arisen in the country of production, repair or remanufacture, rather than in the country of export or transit.

Where wood packaging material does not carry the required mark, or the detection of pests provides evidence that the treatment may not have been effective, the NPPO should respond accordingly and, if necessary, an emergency action may be taken. This action may take the form of detention while the situation is being addressed then, as appropriate, removal of non-compliant material, treatment³, destruction (or other secure disposal) or reshipment. Further examples of appropriate options for actions are provided in Appendix 1. The principle of minimal impact should be pursued in relation to any emergency action taken, distinguishing between the consignment traded and the accompanying wood packaging material. In addition, if emergency action is necessary and methyl bromide is used by the NPPO, relevant aspects of the IPPC Recommendation on *Replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure* (CPM, 2008) should be followed.

The NPPO of the importing country should notify the exporting country, or the manufacturing country where applicable, in cases where live pests are found. In such cases, where a unit of wood packaging

³ This need not necessarily be a treatment approved in this standard.

material bears more than one mark NPPOs should attempt to determine the origin of the non-compliant component(s) prior to sending a notice of non-compliance. NPPOs are also encouraged to notify cases of missing marks and other cases of non-compliance. Taking into account the provisions of section 4.3.2, it should be noted that the presence of multiple marks on a single unit of wood packaging does not constitute non-compliance.

The revised Annex 1 was adopted by the Eighth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in April 2013.

This annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

ANNEX 1: Approved treatments associated with wood packaging material (2013)

The approved treatments may be applied to units of wood packaging material or to pieces of wood that are to be made into wood packaging material.

Use of debarked wood

Irrespective of the type of treatment applied, wood packaging material must be made of debarked wood. For this standard, any number of visually separate and clearly distinct small pieces of bark may remain if they are:

- less than 3 cm in width (regardless of the length) or
- greater than 3 cm in width, with the total surface area of an individual piece of bark less than 50 square cm.

For methyl bromide treatment, the removal of bark must be carried out before treatment as the presence of bark on the wood may affect treatment efficacy. For heat treatment, the removal of bark may be carried out before or after treatment. When a dimension limitation is specified for a certain type of heat treatment (e.g. dielectric heating), any bark must be included in the dimension measurement.

Heat treatment

Various energy sources or processes may be suitable to achieve the required treatment parameters. For example, conventional steam heating, kiln-drying, heat-enabled chemical pressure impregnation and dielectric heating (microwave, radio frequency) may all be considered heat treatments provided they meet the heat treatment parameters specified in this standard.

NPPOs should ensure that treatment providers monitor the treatment temperature at a location likely to be the coldest, which will be the location taking the longest time to reach the target temperature in the wood, to ensure that the target temperature is maintained for the duration of treatment throughout the batch of wood being treated. The point at which a piece of wood is the coldest may vary depending on the energy source or process applied, the moisture content and the initial temperature distribution in the wood.

When using dielectric heating as a heat source, the coldest part of the wood during treatment is usually the surface. In some situations (e.g. dielectric heating of wood of large dimensions that has been frozen and until the wood has thawed) the core may be the coldest part of the wood.

Heat treatment using a conventional steam or dry kiln heat chamber (treatment code for the mark: HT)

When using conventional heat chamber technology, the fundamental requirement is to achieve a minimum temperature of 56 °C for a minimum duration of 30 continuous minutes throughout the entire profile of the wood (including its core).

This temperature can be measured by inserting temperature sensors in the core of the wood. Alternatively, when using kiln-drying heat chambers or other heat treatment chambers, treatment schedules may be developed based on a series of test treatments during which the core temperature of the wood at various locations inside the heat chamber has been measured and correlated with chamber air temperature, taking into account the moisture content of the wood and other substantial parameters (such as species and thickness of the wood, air flow rate and humidity). The test series must demonstrate that a minimum temperature of 56 °C is maintained for a minimum duration of 30 continuous minutes throughout the entire profile of the wood.

Treatment schedules should be specified or approved by the NPPO.

Treatment providers should be approved by the NPPO. NPPOs should consider the following factors that may be required for a heat chamber to meet the treatment requirements.

- The heat chamber is sealed and well insulated, including insulation in the floor.
- The heat chamber is designed in a manner that permits uniform flow of air around and through the wood stack. Wood to be treated is loaded into the chamber in a manner that ensures adequate air flow around and through the wood stack.
- Air deflectors in the chamber area and spacers in the stack of the wood are used as required to ensure adequate air flow.
- Fans are used to circulate air during treatment, and air flow from these fans is sufficient to ensure the core temperature of the wood is maintained at the specified level for the required duration.
- The coldest location within the chamber is identified for each load and temperature sensors are placed there, either in the wood or in the chamber.
- Where the treatment is monitored using temperature sensors inserted into the wood, at least two temperature sensors are recommended. These temperature sensors should be suitable for measuring wood core temperature. The use of multiple temperature sensors ensures that any failure of a temperature sensor is detected during the treatment process. The temperature sensors are inserted at least 30 cm from the end of a piece of wood and penetrate to the centre of the wood. For shorter boards or pallet blocks, temperature sensors are also inserted in the piece of wood with the largest dimensions in a manner that ensures the temperature at the core is measured. Any holes drilled in the wood to place the temperature sensors are sealed with appropriate material to prevent interference in temperature measurement by convection or conduction. Special attention should be paid to external influences on the wood such as nails or metal insertions that may lead to incorrect measurements.
- Where the treatment schedule is based on monitoring chamber air temperature and is used for treatment of different wood types (e.g. specific species and sizes), the schedule takes into account the species, moisture content and thickness of the wood being treated. At least two temperature sensors are recommended for monitoring the air temperature in the chamber treating wood packaging according to treatment schedules.
- If the air flow in the chamber is routinely reversed during treatment, a greater number of temperature sensors may be needed to account for a possible change in the location of the coldest point.
- Temperature sensors and data recording equipment are calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions at a frequency specified by the NPPO.
- Temperatures are monitored and recorded during each treatment to ensure that the prescribed minimum temperature is maintained for the required period of time. If the minimum temperature is not maintained, corrective action needs to be taken to ensure that all wood is treated according to heat treatment requirements (30 continuous minutes at 56 °C); for example, the treatment is restarted or the treatment time extended and, if necessary, the temperature raised. During the treatment period, the frequency of temperature readings is sufficient to ensure that treatment failures can be detected.
- For the purpose of auditing, the treatment provider keeps records of heat treatments and calibrations for a period of time specified by the NPPO.

Heat treatment using dielectric heating (treatment code for the mark: DH)

Where dielectric heating is used (e.g. microwave), wood packaging material composed of wood not exceeding 20 cm⁴ when measured across the smallest dimension of the piece or the stack must be heated to achieve a minimum temperature of 60 °C for 1 continuous minute throughout the entire profile of the

⁴ The 20 cm limit is based on the efficacy data currently available.

wood (including its surface). The prescribed temperature must be reached within 30 minutes from the start of the treatment⁵.

Treatment schedules should be specified or approved by the NPPO.

Treatment providers should be approved by the NPPO. NPPOs should consider the following factors that may be required for a dielectric heating chamber to meet the treatment requirements.

- Irrespective of whether dielectric heating is conducted as a batch process or as a continuous (conveyor) process, the treatment is monitored in the wood where the temperature is likely to be the coldest (normally on the surface) to ensure the target temperature is maintained. For measuring the temperature, at least two temperature sensors are recommended to ensure that any failure of a temperature sensor is detected.
- The treatment provider has initially validated that the wood temperatures reach or exceed 60 °C for 1 continuous minute throughout the entire profile of the wood (including its surface).
- For wood exceeding 5 cm in thickness, dielectric heating at 2.45 GHz requires bidirectional application or multiple waveguides for the delivery of microwave energy to ensure uniformity of heating.
- Temperature sensors and data recording equipment are calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions at a frequency specified by the NPPO.
- For the purpose of auditing, the treatment provider keeps records of heat treatments and calibrations for a period of time specified by the NPPO.

Methyl bromide treatment (treatment code for the mark: MB)

NPPOs are encouraged to promote the use of alternative treatments approved in this standard⁶. Use of methyl bromide should take into account the CPM recommendation on the replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure (CPM, 2008).

Wood packaging material containing a piece of wood exceeding 20 cm in cross-section at its smallest dimension must not be treated with methyl bromide.

The fumigation of wood packaging material with methyl bromide must be in accordance with a schedule specified or approved by the NPPO that achieves the minimum concentration-time product⁷ (CT) over 24 hours at the temperature and final residual concentration specified in Table 1. This CT must be achieved throughout the profile of the wood, including its core, although the concentrations would be measured in the ambient atmosphere. The minimum temperature of the wood and its surrounding atmosphere must not be less than 10 °C and the minimum exposure time must not be less than 24 hours. Monitoring of gas concentrations must be carried out at a minimum at 2, 4 and 24 hours from the beginning of the treatment. In the case of longer exposure times and weaker concentrations, additional measurement of the gas concentrations should be recorded at the end of fumigation.

If the CT is not achieved over 24 hours, corrective action needs to be taken to ensure the CT is reached; for example, the treatment is restarted or the treatment time extended for a maximum of 2 hours without adding more methyl bromide to achieve the required CT (see the footnote to Table 1).

⁵ Only microwave technology has been proven to date to be capable of achieving the required temperature within the recommended time scale.

⁶ Contracting parties to the IPPC may also have obligations under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer (UNEP, 2000).

⁷ The CT utilized for methyl bromide treatment in this standard is the sum of the products of the concentration (g/m³) and time (h) over the duration of the treatment.

Table 1: Minimum CT over 24 hours for wood packaging material fumigated with methyl bromide

Temperature (°C)	CT (g·h/m ³) over 24 h	Minimum final concentration (g/m ³) after 24 h [#]
21.0 or above	650	24
16.0 – 20.9	800	28
10.0 – 15.9	900	32

In circumstances when the minimum final concentration is not achieved after 24 hours, a deviation in the concentration of ~5% is permitted provided additional treatment time is added to the end of the treatment to achieve the prescribed CT.

One example of a schedule that may be used for achieving the specified requirements is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Example of a treatment schedule that achieves the minimum required CT for wood packaging material treated with methyl bromide (initial doses may need to be higher in conditions of high sorption or leakage)

Temperature (°C)	Dosage (g/m ³)	Minimum concentration (g/m ³) at:		
		2 h	4 h	24 h
21.0 or above	48	36	31	24
16.0 – 20.9	56	42	36	28
10.0 – 15.9	64	48	42	32

Treatment providers should be approved by the NPPO. NPPOs should consider the following factors that may be required for methyl bromide fumigation to meet the treatment requirements.

- Fans are used as appropriate during the gas distribution phase of fumigation to ensure equilibrium is reached and positioned to make certain the fumigant is rapidly and effectively distributed throughout the fumigation enclosure (preferably within the first hour of application).
- The fumigation enclosure is not loaded beyond 80% of its volume.
- The fumigation enclosure is well sealed and as gas tight as possible. If fumigation is to be carried out under sheets, these are made of gas-proof material and sealed appropriately at the seams and at floor level.
- The fumigation site floor is impermeable to the fumigant; if it is not, gas-proof sheets are laid on the floor.
- The use of a vaporizer to apply methyl bromide (“hot gassing”) in order to fully volatilize the fumigant prior to its entry into the fumigation enclosure is recommended.
- Methyl bromide treatment is not carried out on stacked wood packaging material exceeding 20 cm in cross-section at its smallest dimension. Therefore, stacked wood packaging material may need separators to ensure adequate methyl bromide circulation and penetration.
- The concentration of methyl bromide in the air space is always measured at a location furthest from the insertion point of the gas as well as at other locations throughout the enclosure (e.g. at front bottom, centre middle and back top) to confirm that uniform distribution of the gas is reached. Treatment time is not calculated until uniform distribution has been reached.
- When calculating methyl bromide dosage, compensation is made for any gas mixtures (e.g. 2% chloropicrin) to ensure that the total amount of methyl bromide applied meets required dose rates.
- Initial dose rates and post-treatment product handling procedures take account of likely methyl bromide sorption by the treated wood packaging material or associated product (e.g. polystyrene boxes).
- The measured or expected temperature of the product or the ambient air immediately before or during treatment (whichever is the lowest) is used to calculate the methyl bromide dose.

- Wood packaging material to be fumigated is not wrapped or coated in materials impervious to the fumigant.
- Temperature and gas concentration sensors and data recording equipment are calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions at a frequency specified by the NPPO.
- For the purposes of auditing, the treatment provider keeps records of methyl bromide treatments and calibrations for a period of time specified by the NPPO.

Adoption of alternative treatments and revisions of approved treatment schedules

As new technical information becomes available, existing treatments may be reviewed and modified, and alternative treatments or new treatment schedule for wood packaging material may be adopted by the CPM. If a new treatment or a revised treatment schedule is adopted for wood packaging material and incorporated into this ISPM, material treated under the previous treatment and/or schedule does not need to be re-treated or re-marked.

This annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

ANNEX 2: The mark and its application

A mark indicating that wood packaging material has been subjected to approved phytosanitary treatment in accordance with this standard⁸ comprises the following required components:

- the symbol
- a country code
- a producer/treatment provider code
- a treatment code using the appropriate abbreviation according to Annex 1 (HT, DH or MB).

Symbol

The design of the symbol (which may have been registered under national, regional or international procedures, as either a trademark or a certification/collective/guarantee mark) must resemble closely that shown in the examples illustrated below and must be presented to the left of the other components.

Country code

The country code must be the International Organization for Standards (ISO) two-letter country code (shown in the examples as “XX”). It must be separated by a hyphen from the producer/treatment provider code.

Producer/treatment provider code

The producer/treatment provider code is a unique code assigned by the NPPO to the producer of the wood packaging material or treatment provider who applies the marks or the entity otherwise responsible to the NPPO for ensuring that appropriately treated wood is used and properly marked (shown in the examples as “000”). The number and order of digits and/or letters are assigned by the NPPO.

Treatment code

The treatment code is an IPPC abbreviation as provided in Annex 1 for the approved measure used and shown in the examples as “YY”. The treatment code must appear after the combined country and producer/treatment provider codes. It must appear on a separate line from the country code and producer/treatment provider code, or be separated by a hyphen if presented on the same line as the other codes.

Treatment code	Treatment type
HT	Heat treatment
MB	Methyl bromide
DH	Dielectric heating

Application of the mark

The size, font types used, and position of the mark may vary, but its size must be sufficient to be both visible and legible to inspectors without the use of a visual aid. The mark must be rectangular or square in shape and contained within a border line with a vertical line separating the symbol from the code components. To facilitate the use of stencilling, small gaps in the border, the vertical line, and elsewhere among the components of the mark, may be present.

No other information shall be contained within the border of the mark. If additional marks (e.g. trademarks of the producer, logo of the authorizing body) are considered useful to protect the use of the mark on a national level, such information may be provided adjacent to but outside of the border of the mark.

⁸ At import, countries should accept previously produced wood packaging material carrying a mark consistent with earlier versions of this standard.

The mark must be:

- legible
- durable and not transferable
- placed in a location that is visible when the wood packaging is in use, preferably on at least two opposite sides of the wood packaging unit.

The mark must not be hand drawn.

The use of red or orange should be avoided because these colours are used in the labelling of dangerous goods.

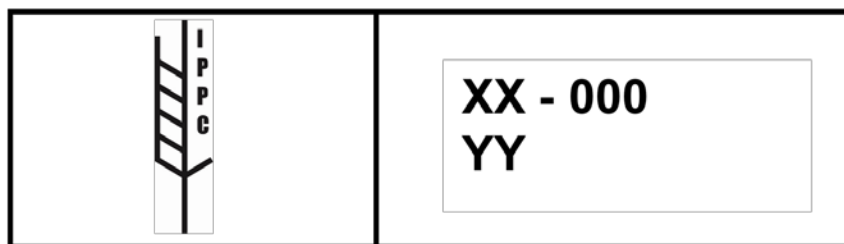
Where various components are integrated into a unit of wood packaging material, the resultant composite unit should be considered as a single unit for marking purposes. On a composite unit of wood packaging material made of both treated wood and processed wood material (where the processed component does not require treatment), it may be appropriate for the mark to appear on the processed wood material components to ensure that the mark is in a visible location and is of a sufficient size. This approach to the application of the mark applies only to composite single units, not to temporary assemblies of wood packaging material.

Special consideration of legible application of the mark to dunnage may be necessary because treated wood for use as dunnage may not be cut to final length until loading of a conveyance takes place. It is important that shippers ensure that all dunnage used to secure or support commodities is treated and displays the mark described in this annex, and that the marks are clear and legible. Small pieces of wood that do not include all the required elements of the mark should not be used for dunnage. Options for marking dunnage appropriately include:

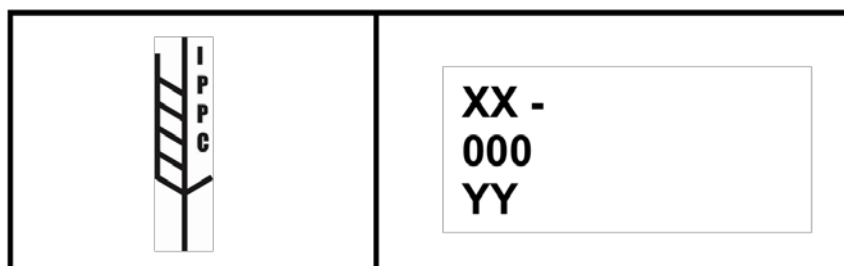
- application of the mark to pieces of wood intended for use as dunnage along their entire length at very short intervals (NB: where very small pieces are subsequently cut for use as dunnage, the cuts should be made so that an entire mark is present on the dunnage used)
- additional application of the mark to treated dunnage in a visible location after cutting, provided that the shipper is authorized in accordance with section 4.

The examples below illustrate some acceptable variants of the required components of the mark that is used to certify that the wood packaging material that bears such a mark has been subjected to an approved treatment. No variations in the symbol should be accepted. Variations in the layout of the mark should be accepted provided that they meet the requirements set out in this annex.

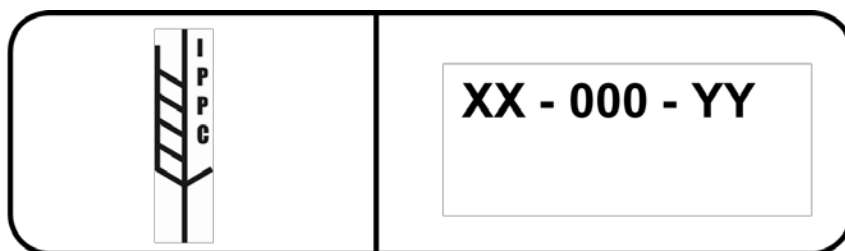
Example 1



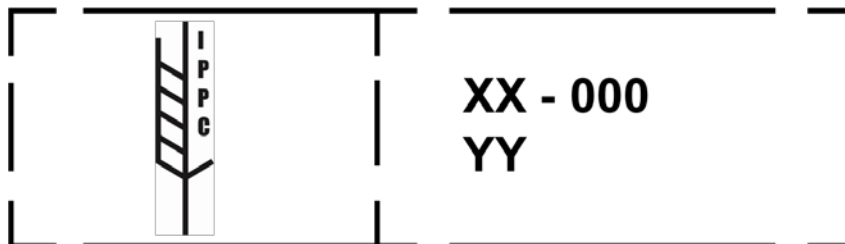
Example 2



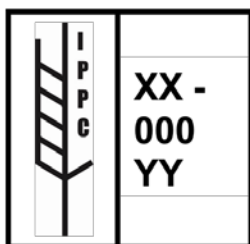
Example 3 (This represents a prospective example of a mark with the border with rounded corners.)



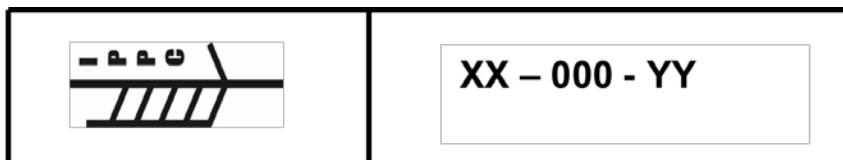
Example 4 (This represents a prospective example of a mark applied by stencilling; small gaps may be present in the border, and the vertical line, and elsewhere among the components of the mark.)



Example 5



Example 6



This appendix is for reference purposes only and is not a prescriptive part of the standard.

APPENDIX 1: Examples of methods of secure disposal of non-compliant wood packaging material

Secure disposal of non-compliant wood packaging material is a risk management option that may be used by the NPPO of the importing country when an emergency action is either not available or is not desirable. The methods listed below are recommended for the secure disposal of non-compliant wood packaging material:

- (1) incineration, if permitted
- (2) deep burial in sites approved by appropriate authorities (NB: the depth of burial may depend on climatic conditions and the pest intercepted, but is recommended to be at least 2 metres. The material should be covered immediately after burial and should remain buried. Note, also, that deep burial is not a suitable disposal option for wood infested with termites or some root pathogens.)
- (3) processing (NB: Chipping should be used *only* if combined with further processing in a manner approved by the NPPO of the importing country for the elimination of pests of concern, e.g. the manufacture of oriented strand board.)
- (4) other methods endorsed by the NPPO as effective for the pests of concern
- (5) return to exporting country, if appropriate.

In order to minimize the risk of introduction or spread of pests, secure disposal methods where required should be carried out with the least possible delay.

IPPC

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international plant health agreement that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests. International travel and trade are greater than ever before. As people and commodities move around the world, organisms that present risks to plants travel with them.

Organization

- ◆ There are over 180 contracting parties to the IPPC.
- ◆ Each contracting party has a national plant protection organization (NPPO) and an Official IPPC contact point.
- ◆ Nine regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) work to facilitate the implementation of the IPPC in countries.
- ◆ IPPC liaises with relevant international organizations to help build regional and national capacities.
- ◆ The Secretariat is provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

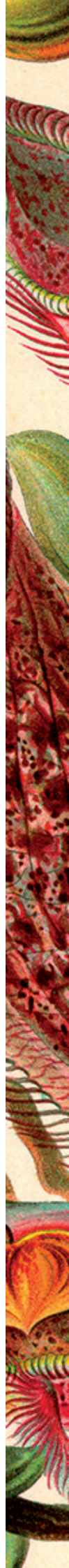
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

IPPC Secretariat

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 5705 4812

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Canada Border Services Agency

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Food, Plants, Animals and Related Products

Memorandum D19-1-1

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This document is also available in [PDF \(446 Kb\)](#) [[help with PDF files](#)]

In Brief

1. Updated to reflect the Safe Food for Canadians Act (SFCA) and the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) coming into force.
2. Minor editorial changes.

This memorandum contains the guidelines that apply to commercial and non-commercial importations of food, plants, animals (FPA) and related products as regulated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) including:

- Animal feed
- Animal and plant pathogens, including microorganisms and biological material
- Fertilizers, fertilizer-pesticide combination products, soil supplements and growing media
- Fish, seafood and fish products
- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Grains, seeds, and nuts
- Live animals including:
 - terrestrial animals
 - aquatic animals (including gametes and germplasm)
 - animal semen and embryos
 - hatching eggs
 - honey bees
- Pet food and treats
- Plants and plant products
- Processed fruits and vegetables, and maple products
- Products and by-products of animal origin including:
 - meat and meat products, including glands and organs (edible and inedible)
 - eggs and egg products

- milk and milk products
- honey, beeswax and propolis
- hides, skins, feathers, wool and trophies
- manure
- rendered animal meals and rendered animal fats
- animal carcasses, parts and derivatives
- aquatic animal carcasses, parts of carcasses and offal
- animal samples (tissues, blood, feces, etc.)
- Roots, bulbs and tubers and other plant matter for propagation
- Soil and related matter
- Wood and wood products

This memorandum also applies to items that are infested or contaminated with CFIA-regulated matter, such as soil, pests, blood, feces and organic tissue.

The importation or exportation of FPA and related products may also be regulated by other government departments such as Environment and Climate Change Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Global Affairs Canada. Information on these requirements is not included in this memorandum, but can be found in the following CBSA memoranda:

Environment and Climate Change Canada: [Memorandum D19-7-1, Interpretation of the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act \(WAPPRIITA\) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\)](#).

Fisheries and Oceans Canada: [Memorandum D19-8-5, Import Prohibitions and Requirements for Commercial Importers of Aquatic Species and for Travellers under the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations](#).

Global Affairs Canada: [Memorandum D19-10-2, Export and Import Permits Act \(Importations\)](#) and [Memorandum D10-18-1, Tariff Rate Quotas](#).

In addition, although the importation of human pathogens is not regulated by the CFIA, there are pathogens that are both human and animal (zoonotic) and these are regulated by both the CFIA and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). PHAC is responsible for the administration of certain provisions of the Health of Animals Act and Health of Animals Regulations. It issues import permits and transfer authorizations for most terrestrial animal pathogens (excluding aquatic animals, bees, invertebrates and pathogens that cause emerging or foreign animal diseases). For more information consult the [PHAC Laboratory Safety and Biosecurity website](#).

Legislation

The requirements outlined in this memorandum are derived from the following Acts of Parliament and their associated Regulations:

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Legislation

- [Canada Border Services Agency Act](#)
- [Customs Act](#)

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Legislation

- [Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act](#)
- [Feeds Act](#)
- [Fertilizers Act](#)
- [Health of Animals Act](#)
- [Meat Inspection Act](#)
- [Plant Protection Act](#)
- [Safe Food for Canadians Act](#)
- [Seeds Act](#)

Guidelines and General Information

Responsibilities of the CBSA and the CFIA

1. The CFIA is responsible for establishing the policies that govern the import, export and in-transit movement of FPA and related products.
2. In 2003, the CBSA assumed responsibility for the initial import inspection services in respect of the acts and regulations administered by the CFIA to the extent that they are applicable at Canadian border points. The CFIA retains responsibility for the enforcement of the CFIA acts and regulations to the extent that they apply within Canada and at its National Import Service Centre (NISC).
3. In 2005, the CBSA and the CFIA signed an umbrella memorandum of understanding (MOU), which outlines the administrative and operational roles and responsibilities of the two agencies as they apply at the border with respect to the import, export and in-transit movement of FPA and related products.
4. CBSA officers are designated to enforce the provisions of the above CFIA acts and their associated regulations under section 9 (2) (b) of the [Canada Border Services Agency Act](#).

CFIA Import Requirements

5. FPA and related products brought into Canada can carry harmful animal and plant diseases, plant pests, microorganisms, viruses, fungi and/or bacteria or may be invasive species, which can pose serious risks to Canada's environment, economy, agricultural sector, natural resources, and the health of Canadians.

6. In order to help mitigate the risks of introducing threats into Canada, the CFIA has established prohibitions, restrictions, controls, and/or limits on the importation of FPA and related products from around the world. In some cases, import documentation such as licences, permits, certificates and/or other documents or information are required in order for the goods to be eligible to enter Canada.
7. Any required licences, permits, certificates and any other required import documentation must be obtained prior to arrival of the goods in Canada.
8. All required import documentation must be authentic, legible, complete, and, where required, signed by the appropriate authority.
9. Complete and current import requirements for CFIA-regulated products can be found by consulting the CFIA's Automated Import Reference System (AIRS). AIRS is an automated reference tool that uses a question and answer approach to guide the user through a series of questions about the Harmonized System (HS) codes, product description, genus or species, origin, destination, end use and miscellaneous qualifiers of the product they wish to import. Please be aware that import requirements can change on a daily basis due to emerging threats.

Additional information on using AIRS can be found in Appendix A of this memorandum.

10. Clients wishing to receive email notifications regarding updates to CFIA import policies and AIRS, including system outages, can do so by subscribing through the CFIA's website.
11. CFIA import permits can be requested by completing the appropriate permit application form(s) available on the CFIA's website. The CFIA's Centre for Administration (CoA) can also be contacted for further assistance with obtaining these permits.

Centre of Administration

E-mail: Permission@inspection.gc.ca

Telephone: 1-855-212-7695 or 613-773-5131

12. In order to respond to emerging situations (e.g. disease outbreaks), the CFIA may impose new requirements or restrictions on FPA and related products entering Canada that supersede the instructions in AIRS. The CBSA will enforce these new restrictions/requirements as required at Canadian border points of entry.

CFIA's National Import Service Centre (NISC)

13. To simplify and enhance the import process, the CFIA established the NISC as a single-point contact for information and advice concerning CFIA import requirements. Clients seeking information or assistance related to CFIA import requirements or restrictions can contact the CFIA's NISC at:

National Import Service Centre

Telephone and EDI: 1-800-835-4486 (Canada or U.S.A.)

1-289-247-4099 (local calls and all other countries)

Fax: 1-613-773-9999

07:00 a.m. to 03:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)

Mailing address:

1050 Courtney Park Drive East,
Mississauga, ON L5T 2R4

14. The CFIA's NISC is responsible for reviewing import documentation for certain FPA and related goods entering Canada and then returning a release recommendation either electronically to the CBSA or by fax directly to the client on a CFIA 5272, Request for Documentation Review form.

Traveller importations

15. Travellers are required by law to declare any FPA and related products that they are bringing into Canada. Failure to declare goods can result in forfeiture, monetary penalties, and/or prosecution. The Agriculture and Agri-food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act is used to address traveller non-compliance when a person fails to present FPA goods, fails to present prescribed documentation for FPA goods upon entry into Canada or attempts to illegally import FPA goods. See paragraph 72 of this memorandum for further information on monetary penalties.

16. Travellers are also responsible for ensuring that their goods comply with the requirements of all government departments and agencies prior to importation of the goods into Canada, including obtaining any required import documentation prior to arrival of the goods at the border.

17. Travellers can consult the CFIA's website Travellers: what you can bring into Canada.

18. Complete and current CFIA import requirements can be found by consulting the CFIA's AIRS.

Please be advised that the import requirements can change on a daily basis due to emerging threats.

Additional information on using AIRS can be found in Appendix A of this memorandum.

Commercial importations

19. Importers or the person in possession, or care and control of the goods are responsible for ensuring that their goods comply with the requirements of all government departments and agencies prior to importation into Canada.

20. All commercial importations must be reported to the CBSA at the first point of arrival in Canada in accordance with CBSA D3-series memoranda. Release from CBSA control can be obtained by following the release and accounting procedures outlined in CBSA D17-series memoranda.

21. Under certain conditions, as described in CBSA D3-series memoranda, shipments may be allowed to move inland, in-bond, where formal release procedures will be followed and compliance with the requirements of other government departments verified.

22. For every shipment of goods requiring documentation review by the CFIA's NISC, a completed CFIA 5272, Request for Documentation Review form along with any CFIA-required import documentation must be submitted to the NISC for review. A customs transaction number is mandatory for all import requests and must appear on the CFIA 5272 form.

Note: The requirement to submit a CFIA 5272 form to the CFIA will not always be necessary when transmitting an Integrated Import Declaration (IID) release request under the CBSA's Single Window Initiative (see paragraphs 27 to 30). Please consult AIRS to determine CFIA 5272 submission requirements.

23. For Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) transmissions, importers/brokers and the CBSA will receive an electronic notification of the CFIA's recommendation via the CBSA's Accelerated Commercial Release Operations Support System (ACROSS).

24. For paper submissions, or EDI submissions requiring accompanying documentation, the 5272 form will be stamped and returned by the NISC to inform importers/brokers of the CFIA's recommendation. The stamped 5272 along with all CFIA required import documentation must be presented to the CBSA as a part of the release package.

25. All documentation submitted to the CBSA must be true, accurate and complete, and may require taxonomic names to be provided (e.g. for aquatic animals). Importers and brokers are advised that incomplete or missing documentation may result in delays, refusal and/or administrative monetary penalties (see paragraph 73).

Note: For plants, animals, and microorganisms, instructions for completing the commodity description field on the commercial invoice are found in Appendix A of Memorandum D1-4-1, CBSA Invoice Requirements.

26. Where applicable, commercial and traveller importations must also meet the CFIA's labelling requirements. The CFIA regulates packaging, labelling, composition, and net quantity requirements for most foods under the following Acts and their associated regulations:

- Safe Food for Canadians Act
- Food and Drugs Act (as it relates to food)
- Health of Animals Act

The CBSA assists the CFIA with the administration of these Acts, through the detection and notification of possible infractions.

Implementation of the CBSA Single Window Initiative (SWI)

27. The CBSA has implemented the Single Window EDI service option – the Integrated Import Declaration (IID) as the primary method of obtaining commercial release of CFIA-regulated goods.

28. SWI's IID allows for the provision of licence, certificate, permit and other import documentation information submitted via the Digital Image Functionality and/or as dematerialized information.

29. All CFIA programs are covered in Appendix B1 of the CBSA's Electronic Commerce Client Requirements Document (ECCRD) for the IID service option 911.

30. For more information on the SWI IID, please refer to the CBSA's SWI website. The ECCRD provides technical and system requirements information. Appendix B of the ECCRD includes a list of required data elements for all Participating Government Agencies (PGAs).

In-transit Shipments

31. For the purposes of this memorandum, "in-transit" is defined as the movement of foreign goods through Canadian territory from a point outside Canada to another foreign point.

32. The CBSA may authorize the in-transit movement of CFIA-regulated commodities under the following conditions:

- (a) CBSA reporting requirements have been met as outlined in CBSA D3-series memoranda; and
- (b) the goods meet all CFIA requirements; and
- (c) the goods are transported by a CBSA-bonded carrier.

33. CFIA requirements for in-transit shipments can be determined by consulting AIRS under the "in-transit through Canada" option(s). Where this option is not available, the shipment must meet CFIA import requirements as listed in AIRS.

Canadian goods returning to Canada

34. CFIA-regulated goods returning to Canada after being imported to another country must meet all CFIA requirements.

35. CFIA requirements for Canadian goods returning to Canada can be determined by consulting AIRS under the "Canadian goods returning to Canada" option. Where this option is not available, the goods must meet CFIA import requirements as listed in AIRS.

Inadmissible Goods

36. Goods that have been imported in contravention of CFIA legislation will either be:

- (a) seized and deemed forfeit to the Crown, or
- (b) ordered removed from Canada.
- (c) the importer or the person in possession, or care and control of the goods may abandon the goods to the Crown in accordance with section 36 of the Customs Act.

37. Where an importer or the person in possession, care and control of the goods fails to remove goods that have been ordered removed from Canada within the specified time period, the goods become forfeit to the crown.

38. Seized, abandoned or forfeited goods will be dealt with in accordance with the legislation that controls, regulates or prohibits the importation of the commodity.

39. Importers or the person in possession, or care and control of the goods are responsible for all costs associated with the removal, treatment, storage and/or disposal of seized, abandoned or forfeited goods under CFIA legislation or the Customs Act.

40. Goods that are abandoned or forfeited to another government department remain the responsibility of that department.

Wood Packaging Material (WPM)

41. Wood packaging material (WPM) is defined as wood or wood products used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity, and includes dunnage. All ship borne dunnage within a container, on a flat-rack etc. that is not bracing cargo on the ship's deck is considered WPM.

42. The CFIA regulates the entry of WPM into Canada in accordance with the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures 'Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade' 2009 (ISPM 15) as endorsed by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

43. WPM from all countries, except the continental United States (U.S.), entering Canada must meet the following CFIA import requirements:

(a) In all instances the WPM must be free from live wood-boring pests and signs of live wood-boring pests;

AND EITHER

(b) The WPM must bear a valid IPPC mark that:

- i. is legible, permanent, non-transferrable and conforms to the standards set out in Annex II of ISPM15.
- ii. indicates the two-letter country code for the country in which the wood packaging material was produced;
- iii. indicates the official certification number issued to the facility producing the compliant wood packaging material;
- iv. indicates the two-letter code for the treatment carried out, indicating treatment by an approved method.

OR

(c) The WPM must be accompanied by a valid phytosanitary certificate indicating treatment by an approved method.

Note: Phytosanitary certificates are not accepted from China, but are still acceptable from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan.

44. Any WPM found to be non-compliant with the CFIA entry requirements is inadmissible to Canada and will be ordered removed from Canada.

45. Under certain, limited conditions, shipments containing a minor amount of non-compliant WPM may either: (a) be deconsolidated, or (b) have the non-compliant WPM separated from the associated cargo and replaced with compliant WPM. Once the non-compliant WPM is removed and arrangements have been made for its disposal in accordance with CFIA regulations, the shipment will be eligible for release into Canada, providing the shipment also meets all other Canadian import requirements.

46. The option to deconsolidate or separate is only available at the discretion of the CBSA port of entry and is contingent upon the nature of the non-compliance and the capacity of the port of entry facilities to handle deconsolidation or separation. **Deconsolidation or separation is never an option when there are live wood-boring pests or signs of live wood-boring pests.**

47. Any WPM found with live wood-boring pests or signs of live wood-boring pests will be contained and sealed to prevent the risk of pest escape, ordered treated and removed from Canada. Treatment is only to prevent the risk of pest escape while awaiting and during removal from Canada, and does not render the shipment compliant with ISPM 15 or CFIA entry requirements for WPM.

48. Ship borne dunnage, which is wood carried on a marine vessel and used to secure or support a commodity but which does not remain with the commodity, is currently inadmissible to Canada, regardless of any ISPM 15 markings, treatment or certificates. All ship borne dunnage must either:

(a) remain secured on the marine vessel so that pests may not escape while in Canadian waters.

OR

(b) be stored in sealed containers that prevent the escape of pests and transported for disposal or processing at a CFIA-approved disposal or processing facility, subject to CBSA approval and where CFIA-approved facilities exist.

49. All costs associated with the storage, separation, treatment, removal, and/or disposal of non-compliant WPM or dunnage are the responsibility of the importer or person in possession, or care and control of the goods pursuant to section 44 of the Plant Protection Act.

50. For current, detailed information on the entry requirements for WPM, IPPC marks, Phytosanitary certificates, and dunnage, and to ensure compliance, always refer to CFIA Directive D-98-08 - Entry Requirements for Wood Packaging Material into Canada.

Goods Contaminated with Soil

51. Canada has a "no tolerance" policy for foreign soil, and therefore anything more than a fine film of dust left by dirty wash water or accumulated during transport is considered to be contamination with soil. Any visible film, patch or clump of mud, dirt or organic matter (e.g., manure or blood) on or

in the goods or conveyance beyond a fine film of dust constitutes the presence of soil and renders the goods/conveyance non-compliant.

52. Any goods found to be contaminated with soil are inadmissible and will be ordered removed from Canada. This includes non-FPA products such as used vehicles, farm equipment, conveyances, and personal effects such as hiking boots, gardening tools and bicycles.

53. Under exceptional circumstances, the CBSA may authorize treatment of the goods or conveyance at a CFIA-approved cleaning facility, bonded under the Customs Act. The goods must then be re-inspected by the CBSA before being authorized to enter Canada. The decision to allow the goods or conveyance to be treated is at the discretion of the border services officer and is based on a combination of the following factors:

- Amount of soil present (level of contamination);
- Availability of either a CFIA-approved treatment facility within the immediate urban environment or mobile treatment facility to come to the port of entry;
- Ease of containment and transport;
- Operational capacity of the port of entry;
- Shape, surface and texture of goods; and
- Health and safety concerns.

54. All costs associated with the storage, treatment and/or removal of goods contaminated with soil are the responsibility of importer or person in possession, or care and control of the goods pursuant to section 44 of the Plant Protection Act and section 60 of the Health of Animals Act.

55. For further information on CFIA import requirements for goods contaminated with soil, please refer to CFIA Directive D-95-26 - Phytosanitary requirements for soil and soil-related matter, and for items contaminated with soil and soil-related matter.

Live Animals

56. Live animals that require an inspection by a CFIA veterinarian or the CBSA are inspected **at the first point of arrival in Canada**. Live Animals requiring CFIA veterinary inspection at the border are indicated in AIRS as "Refer to CFIA – Veterinary Inspection". Those requiring CBSA inspection are identified in AIRS as "CBSA Inspection".

57. Where CFIA veterinary inspection is indicated as a requirement, travellers/importers are to contact the CFIA Animal Health Office closest to the port of entry into Canada prior to arrival to arrange for a veterinary inspection appointment. The results from the CFIA inspection must be made available to the CBSA before the animals can be released into Canada.

58. Live animals imported into Canada must be handled and transported in a humane manner that prevents injury and unnecessary suffering. Any suspected humane transport issues or instances where the animal appears to be downed, injured, sick or unhealthy will be referred to a CFIA veterinarian. Information on the requirements for the humane transport of animals can be found in the Health of Animals Regulations.

59. All costs associated with the storage, removal, and/or disposal of non-compliant live animals are the responsibility of the importer or person in possession, or care and control of the goods.

Empty conveyances entering Canada after transporting live terrestrial animals

60. Empty conveyances entering Canada after transporting live terrestrial animals in a foreign country must have been cleaned in accordance with the Health of Animals Regulations. Non-compliant conveyances will be refused entry into Canada.

Aquatic Animals (live or dead)

61. Traveller/commercial imports of susceptible species listed in Schedule III of the Health of Animals Regulations generally require a CFIA import permit and other documentation as outlined in AIRS in order to enter Canada.

62. Under the Health of Animals Regulations there are additional information requirements that must be declared upon entry, including the scientific or taxonomic names for finfish, crustaceans, and molluscs. Consequently, travellers and commercial importers must report scientific names of all imported aquatic species in the commodity description field of Form CI1, Canada Customs Invoice or the commercial invoice, either electronic or paper, as per the instructions in Memorandum D1-4-1, CBSA Invoice Requirements, and/or in accordance with the technical requirements, specifications and procedures for electronic data interchange as set out in the Electronic Commerce Client Requirements Document (ECCRD). In addition to taxonomic names, travellers and commercial importers must declare the number of aquatic animals being imported, the life stage, the country in which the aquatic animal was born or where the germplasm came from, and whether the animals are from captivity or the wild.

63. The following websites are sources of scientific names and information on aquatic species:

- (a) Fish Base;
- (b) Mollusca Base;
- (c) World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS); and
- (d) Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS).

International Waste

64. International waste may only be offloaded in Canada with the approval of the CBSA and where CFIA-approved routes and CFIA-approved disposal facilities exist.

65. Any international waste offloaded from aircraft or marine vessels must be controlled, transported and disposed of in accordance with the CFIA's International Waste Directive. Marine vessel/aircraft owners or their agents/representatives are responsible for ensuring the requirements of the International Waste Directive are met.

66. For more information on CFIA policies governing the control, transportation and disposal of international waste, please consult the CFIA's [International Waste Directive](#).

Postal and Courier Importations

67. CFIA-regulated commodities are not eligible for import in the Courier Low Value Shipment (LVS) stream. All CFIA import requirements must be met if imported through the postal stream.

68. Additional information on postal and courier importations can be found in [Memorandum D5-1-1, Canada Border Services Agency International Mail Processing System](#), [Memorandum D8-2-16, Courier Imports Remission](#) and [Memorandum D17-4-0, Courier Low Value Shipment Program](#).

Diplomatic Goods and Persons with Special Status

69. All importations of FPA and related products are subject to CFIA import requirements, regardless of any diplomatic immunity, status or privilege extended to the person importing the goods.

70. For additional information refer to [Memorandum D21-1-1, Customs Privileges for Diplomatic Missions, Consular Posts, and International Organizations \(Tariff Item No. 9808.00.00\)](#).

Trade Fairs, Shows and Special Events in Canada

71. FPA and related products imported for trade fairs, shows, or other special events in Canada are subject to all CFIA requirements.

Note: In some cases, AIRS has an end use for "show or exhibition" that can be used to determine CFIA import requirements for these goods.

Penalty Provisions

72. The CBSA has the authority under the [Agriculture and Agri-food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act](#) to issue warnings or monetary penalties to travellers who fail to declare or illegally import FPA goods. Monetary penalties currently range from \$500 to \$1,300 per violation.

73. Under the CBSA's Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS), the CBSA can issue monetary penalties to commercial clients for non-compliance with the CBSA's trade and border legislation. If prescribed documentation has not been presented to the CBSA with the release request, a penalty may be issued by the CBSA for not providing required permits or information before the goods are released. Please refer to [Memorandum D22-1-1, Administrative Monetary Penalty System](#) for details.

Inspection fees

74. The CFIA has established a series of inspection fees related to the importation of certain commodities. These fees are established in the [CFIA Fees Notice](#) under the [Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act](#).

75. The CBSA collects fees for FPA inspections performed at the border by CBSA officers, which include but are not limited to:

- (a) The inspection of WPM;
- (b) The inspection of goods potentially contaminated with soil;
- (c) The inspection of dogs, cats, horses, feeder cattle, hatching eggs, animal semen and embryos; and
- (d) International waste monitoring activities.

Note: The CFIA may also charge inspection fees separately from the CBSA for services that the CFIA provides.

76. Information on inspection fees and their amounts can be found by consulting the CBSA's [Schedule of Inspection Fees](#) or the CFIA's [Fees Notice](#).

77. The goods and services tax (GST) and other applicable taxes may be charged on these services. The fees cannot be claimed under a traveller's personal exemption.

Additional Information

Exports

78. The CFIA is responsible for the certification and control of FPA and related products exported from Canada. Information on exporting CFIA-regulated commodities can be found on the [CFIA's website](#). The CBSA's export reporting requirements are outlined in [Memorandum D20-1-1, Exporter Reporting](#).

Provincial/Territorial Requirements

79. CBSA is not responsible for enforcing provincial or territorial legislation for the importation of plants and animals. Nevertheless, border services officers may contact the appropriate provincial or territorial authority if they suspect that an importation of a plant or animal is in violation of a provincial or territorial law. This includes the importation of any invasive animal or plant species and/or species potentially carrying animal or plant diseases or pests that are regulated by the provinces and territories.

80. Border services officers are granted the authority to share information with the provinces and territories related to potential violations of their laws under paragraphs 107 (4)(e) and 107 (5)(d) of the [Customs Act](#).

Contact Information

81. Any questions concerning this memorandum should be directed to the CBSA's Border Information Service (BIS):

Calls within Canada (toll free):	1-800-461-9999
Calls outside Canada: (long distance charges apply)	1-204-983-3500 1-506-636-5064
Tele-typewriter: (For those with hearing or speech impairments)	1-866-335-3237
Email:	contact@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca

Appendix A – CFIA's Automated Import Reference System (AIRS)

The purpose of the CFIA's Automated Import Reference System (AIRS) is to provide accurate and timely information on import requirements. The application uses a question and answer approach to guide the user through a series of questions about the Harmonized System (HS) codes, product description, genus or species, origin, destination, end use and miscellaneous qualifiers of the product they wish to import.

In all cases, the commodities must also meet all other CBSA and other government department (OGD) entry requirements in order to be released into Canada.

When using AIRS to search for a particular commodity, one or more of the following search criteria can be used:

- Common Name
- HS Description
- HS Code
- Alternate Description
- Key Words (includes taxonomic names (scientific names of species) and taxonomic serial numbers (TSN))

As a reference, below are terms used in AIRS under "Recommendations to CBSA/Documentation and Registration Requirements." The terms, as they appear in AIRS, are listed below in bold and are followed by a brief explanation of their meaning.

(a) **Approved:** The commodity is eligible for import into Canada provided that the requirements stated under the conditions of import have been met.

(b) **Approved (must be accompanied by the following documents/registrations):** The commodity is eligible for import into Canada provided that the importer has the required

documentation as listed in AIRS and it is available for CBSA or CFIA review.

(c) **CBSA Inspection:** The commodity is eligible for import into Canada provided that an inspection by a border services officer confirms that all import conditions have been met.

(d) **CBSA Inspection (must be accompanied by the following documents/registrations):** The commodity and the required documentation, as listed in AIRS, require an inspection by a border services officer at the first point of arrival in Canada.

(e) **Not regulated by CFIA:** The commodity is not subject to CFIA regulations.

(f) **Refer to CFIA – NISC:** The required documentation, as listed in AIRS, must be submitted to the CFIA's NISC for review. Documents may be submitted to the NISC for review using the following methods:

- i. Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) as part of an electronic release request to the CBSA. The NISC will then return a recommendation via the agencies' EDI system;

OR

- ii. In advance by fax with a CFIA 5272, Request for Documentation Review (PDF version) form. The CFIA will return a recommendation by stamp on the CFIA 5272 form. All required import documentation including the stamped CFIA 5272 form must then be presented to the CBSA as part of the release package or traveller entry.

(g) **Refer to CFIA – Veterinary Inspection:** The commodity and the required documentation, as listed in AIRS, require inspection by a CFIA veterinarian at the first point of arrival in Canada. The results from the CFIA inspection must be made available to the CBSA before the commodity can be released into Canada.

(h) **Refuse Entry:** The commodity cannot be imported into Canada.

(i) **Importations of these products are not regulated by the CFIA:** The commodity is not subject to CFIA regulations.

Note: If AIRS returns a message of "no record found", it does not necessarily mean importation is approved or has no CFIA requirements. It may mean that the associated risk has not yet been fully assessed by the CFIA. CFIA review and approval is required.

Please be aware that, in order to respond to emerging threats, the CFIA may implement requirements or restrictions that take precedence over any import recommendation indicated in AIRS.

Note: Some import requirements of other government departments, such as Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Global Affairs Canada may also be listed in AIRS, but, these are not necessarily all inclusive or up-to-date and it is the responsibility of the importer to determine all import requirements.

AIRS has been prepared for the convenience of reference only and has no official sanction. For all purposes of interpreting and applying the law, users should consult the legislation passed by Parliament.

References

Issuing office:

Other Government Department Programs Unit
Commercial Program Directorate
Programs Branch
Canada Border Services Agency

Headquarters file:

7616
4617-4

Legislative references:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act
Canada Border Services Agency Act
Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act
Customs Act
Feeds Act
Fertilizers Act
Food and Drugs Act
Health of Animals Act
Plant Protection Act
Safe Food for Canadians Act
Seeds Act

Other references:

D1-4-1, D3-series, D5-1-1, D8-2-16, D10-18-1, D10-18-6, D17-series, D19-7-1, D19-8-5, D19-9-1,
D19-10-2, D19-10-3, D19-12-1, D19-12-2, D20-1-1, D21-1-1, D22-1-1

Superseded memorandum D:

D19-1-1 dated June 21, 2017

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