

Implementation of ISPM No.15 from April 2007

Communication from Japan

Based on the result of a pest risk analysis for wood packaging material, Japan amended its Import Plant Quarantine Regulation (MAF Notification No.206, 1950).

This amendment to it was published on 6 October 2006 and will be put into force on 1 April 2007.

With a view to harmonizing our regulation with the international standards, definition of wood packaging material and measures for it in the regulation is equivalent to that provided in ISPM No.15. Wood packaging material treated and certified according to ISPM No.15 will not be subject to import quarantine procedures. Wood packaging material without the mark (Annex II, ISPM No.15) will be inspected at ports of entry by plant quarantine officers for confirmation of compliance with the regulation.

Detection of a quarantine pest constitutes non-compliance, and which is, according to Japanese domestic law, it is subject to disinfestation, incineration or re-shipping by consignee's choice according to the Japanese domestic law.

References;

Outline of the regulation (in English); <http://www.pps.go.jp/english/woodpack/index.html>

PRA report (in Japanese); <http://www.maff.go.jp/pps/j/konpozai/pdf/inwoodpra01.pdf>

MAFF Notification No.1352, October 6, 2006 *

For amendment of Import Plant Quarantine Regulation (MAF Notification No.206, 1950)

Based on prescript of Paragraph 1 of Article 11 of Plant Protection Law (Law No.151, 1950) **, the Import Plant Quarantine Regulation (MAF Notification No.206, 1950) is amended and the amendment will be put into force April 1, 2007.

October 6, 2006

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Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

After Article 6, Paragraph 1 of the Import Plant Quarantine Regulation, Paragraph 2 below is inserted. According to this amendment, Paragraphs (2) to (9) are renumbered as (3) to (10).

(Plant not subject to quarantine)

Article 6

The article listed in each of the following items shall not fall under the plants specified in Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the Law ***;

[Omitted]

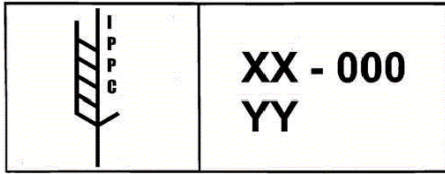
Wood packaging material (If wood packaging material, including pallets, dunnage, crating, packing blocks, drums, cases, load boards, pallet collars and skids, is made from raw wood without processing or treatment, only the wood packaging material treated under the standard shown in Table 6 and marked according to the remarks shown in Form 1 in producing countries can be classified as plant not subject to quarantine in this article.) ****

(3) ~ (10) [Omitted]

Table 6. Treatment standards of wood packaging material in the producing country.

Measure	Standards							Remark
	Dosage (g/m ³)	Treatment period	Temperature	Minimum concentration(g/m ³)				
				2hrs later	4hrs later	12hrs later	24hrs later	
1. Heat treatment	-	30 minutes or more	56°C or more	-	-	-	-	Temperature is core temperature of wood packaging material
2. Methyl bromide fumigation	64	24hours	10°C or more	48	42	36	32	Monitoring of concentrations should be carried out at a minimum at 2, 4 and 24hrs.
	56	Ditto	16°C or more	42	36	32	28	
	48	Ditto	21°C or more	36	31	28	24	

Form 1. The mark on wood packaging material treated and certified.



Remark;

1. The mark should at a minimum include the symbol, ISO two letter country code (XX) indicating producing country of wood packaging material, a unique number (000) assigned to the producer of the wood packaging material, and abbreviation (YY) indicating treatment prescribed in Table 6 (YY; HT for heat treatment or MB for methyl bromide fumigation).
2. The mark should be ;
 - (1) legible
 - (2) permanent and not transferable
 - (3) placed in a visible location, preferably on at least two opposite sides of the wood packaging material,
 - (4) not red or orange.

Note;

* ; Original is in Japanese and MAFF has no responsibility on any issue caused by this text.

** ; Article 6 (Limitation on import)

1. Plants (excluding the plants not used for cultivation and designated by the Ministerial Ordinance as least liable to carry quarantine pests. Hereinafter the same in this and next paragraph) and the packing materials or containers thereof shall not be imported unless the same are accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate or a copy thereof issued by the government agency of exporting country certifying that the material has been inspected and found to be, or believed to be free of injurious animals and plants. However, this shall not apply to the plants and packing materials or containers thereof listed in the following items.

*** ; Article 2 (Definitions)

1. 'Plants' as used in this law shall mean any plant (including a part thereof, seed, fruit and processed goods such as straw mat, straw bale or other similar products) belonging to phanerogam, pteridophyte or bryophyte, exclusive of injurious plants specified in next paragraph.

**** ; In principle, wood packaging material which is neither treated nor certified is classified as 'Plant' defined in Paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Law and it is a subject of regulation.