

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## **China - Peoples Republic of**

**Post:** Beijing

### **China adjusts requirements of wood packing materials for import and export goods**

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

On August 4, 2014, China notified to the WTO G/SPS/N/CHN/686 Notice on Adjusting Requirements of Wood Packaging Materials of Imported and Exported Goods. The adjusted requirements are amendments to the existing regulations on quarantine treatment of wood packaging materials for import and export goods. The proposed date of entry into force is September 1, 2014.

This report is an INFORMAL translation of this document.

## **BEGIN TRANSLATION**

DSAPQ AQSIQ (2014) Letter No. 113

### **Notice on Adjusting Requirements of Wood Packaging Materials of Import and Export Goods**

All local Inspection & Quarantine Bureaus directly under AQSIQ:

To prevent introduction of plant pests linked to goods importation and exportation, AQSIQ published “Procedures of Inspection, Quarantine and Treatment for Wood Packaging Materials of Exported Goods” (No. 69 Administration Order) and “Procedures of Inspection and Quarantine for Wood Packaging Materials of Imported Goods” (No. 84 Administration Order) in 2005 in accordance with “Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade” ( ISPM (International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures) No. 15).The IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention) has modified the ISPM No. 15 for many times (for the newest edition, see the Annex) in recent years, and the modified standard has been generally accepted by state members or regions. To ensure that foreign trade is going on successfully, now the requirements on wood packaging materials of imported and exported goods are adjusted as follows in accordance with the modified international standard:

I. Following six types of wood packaging materials don't apply to the provisions of this Notice and No. 69 and No.84 Notices:

- (1) Wood packaging material made entirely from thin wood (6 mm or less in thickness).
- (2) Wood packaging made wholly of processed wood material, such as plywood or fiberboard that has been created using glue, heat or pressure, or a combination thereof.
- (3) Barrels for wine and spirit that have been heated during manufacture.
- (4) 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.
- (5) Sawdust, wood shavings and wood wool.
- (6) Wood components permanently attached to freight vehicles and containers.

II. Wood Packaging material must be made of debarked wood. A number of visually separate distinct small pieces of bark may remain if they are: less than 3cm in width or with the total surface area of individual piece of bark less than 50 square cm.

III. In addition to heat treatment (HT) and fumigation with methyl bromide (MB), dielectric heating (DH) can be also adopted, which is subject to following specific technical requirements:

- (1) Standard for dielectric heating: the wood surface has a temperature of 60°C or above within 30 minutes that is kept for one minute at least after application of dielectric heating (such as microwave) .
- (2) Requirements for dielectric heating: (1) at least two sets of temperature sensors are used in the place where the wood packaging material has a lowest temperature (which is always the wood surface). (2) For wood packaging materials which are over 5cm in thickness, two-way or multi-way dielectric heating shall be adopted.

IV. The size, font and position of the IPPC marking on the wood packaging material can vary as needed, and however, the marking pattern has to be rectangle or square (for the marking pattern, see the Annex). Information within the marking shall meet relevant rules without addition of any trade mark or anti-counterfeit symbol, and other information for anti-counterfeit and tracing shall be indicated outside the

marking frame. Since September 1, 2014, the marking pattern specified in the No. 69 and No. 84 AQSIQ Orders shall be not used anymore. Currently used wood packaging materials to which IPPC markings have been applied are considered as qualified if there are no concerned pests after quarantine.

V. Wood packaging materials for imported and exported goods can be reused under following conditions:

(1) A unit of wood packaging material that has been treated and has the IPPC marking in accordance with the No. 15 Standard, that has not been repaired, remanufactured or otherwise altered and that has been qualified after quarantine does not require re-treatment or re-application of the marking throughout the service life of the unit. Therefore, the country or region exporting goods may differ from that indicated by the IPPC marking.

(2) A unit of repaired wood packaging material means that the substituted part doesn't exceed one third of the whole. During repair, the added wood shall have been subject to quarantine treatment and shall be marked accordingly. Therefore, a wood packaging material may have more than one different marking.

(3) A unit of remanufactured wood packaging material means that the substituted part exceeds one third of the whole. For remanufactured wood packaging materials, quarantine treatment shall be conducted again, the original markings on the wood packaging material shall be removed, and a new marking shall be applied.

Each bureau shall notify enterprises engaged in mark application for wood packaging materials and importation and importation enterprises of the adjusted measures, and conduct propaganda effectively. Any problem encountered during implementation shall be reported to the Department of Supervision on Animal and Plant Quarantine of AQSIQ.

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Department of Supervision on Animal and Plant Quarantine

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**END TRANSLATION**