

PACKAGING REGULATIONS — March 3, 2005

Listed below you will find proposed implementation dates by country for the adoption of IPPC's ISPM 15 Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade. This information has been provided by the National Wooden Pallet and Container Association.

Countries with implementation changes since last update (January 12, 2005):

China

The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSI) announced that they will be implementing their new WPM regulation January 1, 2006. China will also start accepting the ISPM 15 mark in lieu of the HT certificate APHIS PPQ 553) effective immediately.

Colombia

Colombia changed their implementation date from December 31, 2004 to September 15, 2005.

European Union (EU)

While the European Commission (EC) has deferred for a year their debarking and bark-free specifications, they will begin enforcement of ISPM 15 requirements as of March 1, 2005 (see ISPM 15 Requirements at the bottom of this document). NWPCA will be looking at all data being presented as technical justification for debark and bark-free with a speculative eye and a thorough analysis; the science must be sound to maintain the conditions of the agreed upon standard.

Guatemala

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food announced that they will enforce ISPM 15 September 16, 2005.

Summary information for countries that have begun implementation or announced plans to implement ISPM 15:

New Zealand — April 16, 2003

Australia — September 30, 2004

Nigeria — September 30, 2004

India — November 1, 2004 (Variation: Phytosanitary certificate required only for WPM, not ISPM 15 compliant)

Costa Rica — January 1, 2005

South Africa — January 1, 2005

European Union — March 1, 2005 (Note: WPM already in circulation or in storage is not required to be treated and marked until December 21, 2007)

Switzerland — March 1, 2005

Chile — June 1, 2005

Philippines — June 1, 2005 (Note: Partial enforcement starting January 1, 2005, WPM must be treated, but marking not required)

South Korea — June 1, 2005 (Variation: HT only for softwood packaging)

United States — September 16, 2005 (Note: Phase-in implementation since January 1, 2004; exemption granted to Canada)

Canada — September 16, 2005 (Note: Phase-in implementation since January 1, 2004; exemption granted to U.S.)

Mexico — September 16, 2005 (Note: phase-in implementation since January 1, 2004)

Brazil — September 16, 2005

Colombia — September 16, 2005

Guatemala — September 16, 2005

Turkey — January 1, 2006 (Variation: Debarked WPM)

China — January 1, 2006 (Variation: MB fumigation of softwood packaging must be 240hours)

ISPM 15 Requirements

Compliance with ISPM 15 for wood packaging materials allows for two treatment options:

1. Heat treatment: Wood packaging material should be heated in a schedule that achieves a minimum core temperature of 56°C for a minimum of 30 minutes. The American Lumber Standards Committee administers the U.S. certification program for heat treatment.
2. Methyl Bromide (MB) Fumigation: The wood packaging material should be fumigated with methyl bromide. NWPCA has been tasked by the U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to administer the fumigation program.