

[BPI QUARANTINE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 01, S. 2010, April 08, 2010]

REVISED REGULATION FOR WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

WHEREAS, in 2002 the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measure (ICPM) of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) approved ISPM no.15 "*Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade*," to address the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests that may be associated with the movement of wood packaging material;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Plant Industry issued BPI Quarantine Administrative Order no. 1 series of 2004 with the same title to implement the said standard in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, in April 2009 at the CPM meeting in Rome, due to several demands to improve handling and clarify ambiguity of the text and actual implementation of the said ISPM, the revision of ISPM 15 was approved.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Director of Bureau of Plant Industry by PD 1433 otherwise known as the Plant Quarantine Decree of 1978, this Administrative Order is promulgated to reflect the amendments of ISPM 15 as follows:

SECTION 1. Definitions

Commodity - A type of plant, plant product, or other article being moved for trade or other purpose (FAO, 1990; revised ICPM, 2001)

Dunnage - wood packaging material used to secure or support a commodity but which does not remain associated with the commodity (FAO, 1990; revised ISPM No. 15, 2002)

Fumigation - treatment with a chemical agent that reaches the commodity wholly or primarily in a gaseous state (FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995)

Mark/Marking - an official stamp or brand, internationally recognized, applied to a regulated article to attest its phytosanitary status (ISPM No. 15, 2002)

Phytosanitary measure - Any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests (FAO, 1995; revised IPPC, 1997; ICPM, 2002)

Quarantine pest - a pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered

thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC 1997]

Raw wood - wood, which has not undergone processing, or treatment [ISPM No. 15, 2002]

Thin wood - considered to be 6mm thickness or less according to the Customs Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (the Harmonized System or HS)

Treatment - officially authorized procedure for the killing or removal of pests or rendering pests infertile (FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; ISPM No. 15, 2002; ISPM No. 18, 2003; ICPM, 2005)

Veneer peeler cores - by product of veneer production involving high temperatures and comprising the center of a log remaining after the peeling process

Wood packaging material (WPM) - wood or wood products (excluding paper products) used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity (includes dunnage) [ISPM No. 15, 2002]

SECTION 2. Scope

This regulation describes phytosanitary measures that reduce the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests associated with the entry and exit in the Philippines of wood packaging material made from raw wood. Regulated wood packaging material include crates, boxes, packing cases, dunnage, 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.

The following are of sufficiently low risk and are exempted from the provisions of this regulation:

- WPM made entirely from thin wood (6 mm or less in thickness)
- WPM made of wholly 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 of wine and spirit that have been heated during manufacture
- gift boxes of 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

This regulation describes phytosanitary measures (including treatments) that are approved for wood packaging material and provides for the approval of new or revised treatments. Also, these phytosanitary measures are not intended to provide ongoing protection from contaminating pests or other organisms.

SECTION 3. Measures for Implementation

3.1 Accreditation of Quarantine Treatment Providers

Treatment providers should be accredited first with the BPI before they can conduct treatments for WPM and agricultural commodities intended for international trade.

3.1.1 For Fumigation Companies

- a. Licensed by the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA)
- b. Should have at least the following equipment and safety devices/apparatus:
 - Air Circulator/fans
 - Vaporizer/Heat exchanger with appropriate heat source
 - Distribution hose/applicator
 - Gas Monitoring tubes/ devices
 - Detector pump / gas concentration reading equipment
 - Leak detector unit
 - SCBA, Full face mask with appropriate Methyl Bromide Gas Filters
 - Safety belts, shoes and harnesses (ladder, etc.)
 - Sand snakes
 - Tarpaulin/P.E. sheet (at least 150 microns in thickness)
 - First aid kit
 - Others as may be necessary
- c. Pass the actual (fumigation) test to be supervised by a PQ Officer or an officer authorized by BPI.

3.1.2. For Heat Treatment Companies

- a. Should have at least the following equipment/apparatus:
 - Sufficient number of temperature probes (minimum of 5 sensor probes/chamber)
 - Heat treatment chamber
 - Temperature Data Logger and monitor
 - Others as may be necessary
- b. BPI to conduct heat treatment certification test (sensor test, chamber test, cold spot test etc.) and actual treatment test to be supervised by a PQ Officer or an officer authorized by BPI.

Steps for Accreditation for Fumigation Companies/ Heat Treatment Facilities

- I. Fumigation companies/heat treatment facilities should apply for accreditation to the BPI.
- II. Present the original and photocopy of the following documents: FPA

license (for fumigators), DTI/SEC Registration, Mayors Permit, TIN number/income tax return, Financial Statement, 2x2 photo of owner and representative, company profile, list of personnel and list of equipment/facility layout, for evaluation

III. BPI-PQS shall inspect and evaluate the facilities and equipment of the fumigation company/heat treatment facility.

IV. Conduct actual treatment test.

V. Recommendation by the PQS Chief prior to the final approval of the BPI Director.

VI. Certificate of Accreditation shall be issued with the assigned code.

Validity and Audits

a Accreditation is valid for two (2) years unless sooner revoked.

b. Audits of accredited treatment providers will be done regularly to ensure their compliance to the regulation.

3.2 Approved Treatments

Two (2) approved treatments can be applied for wood packaging material: methyl Bromide fumigation and heat treatment. Either of the two treatments can be applied for WPM.

3.2.1 Methyl Bromide Fumigation

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

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

Temperature	CT (g·h/m³) over 24 h	Minimum final concentration (g/m³) after 24 h
21 °C or above	650	24

16 °C or above	800	28
10 °C or above	900	32

Table 2: 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	CT (g/m ³)	Minimum final concentration (g/m ³) at		
		2 h	4 h	24 h
21 °C or above	48	36	31	24
16 °C or above	56	42	36	28
10 °C or above	64	48	42	32

BPI should ensure that the following factors are appropriately addressed by those involved in the application of methyl bromide treatment:

a) Fans should be used during the gas distribution phase of fumigation to ensure that equilibrium is reached and should be positioned to ensure that the fumigant is rapidly and effectively distributed throughout the fumigation enclosure (preferably within one hour of application).

b) Fumigation enclosures should not be loaded beyond 80% of their volume.

c) Fumigation enclosures should be well sealed and as gas tight as possible. If fumigation is to be carried out under sheets, these should be made of gas-proof material and sealed appropriately at seams and at floor level. Sheets must be at least 150 microns in thickness.

d) The fumigation site floor is either impermeable to the fumigant or gas-proof sheets must be laid on the floor.

e) Methyl bromide should be applied through a vaporizer ('hot gassing') in order to fully volatilize the fumigant prior to its entry into the fumigation enclosure.

f) Methyl bromide treatment is not carried out on wood packaging material exceeding 20 cm in cross section. Wood stacks need separators at least every 20 cm to ensure adequate methyl bromide circulation and penetration.

g) 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 dosage rates.