

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NZL/344
24 February 2006

(06-0792)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>NEW ZEALAND</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF).
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Wood packaging material is defined as wood or wood products (excluding paper products) used in material supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity. This includes items such as dunnage, crates, fillets, spacers, pallets, drums, reels, and gluts
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All countries
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Import Health Standard Wood Packaging Material from all countries (available in English, 8 pages).
6. Description of content: Wood packaging material is defined as wood or wood products (excluding paper products) used in material supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity. Wood packaging material includes items such as dunnage, crates, fillets, spacers, pallets, drums, reels, and gluts. Although exempt from ISPM 15, peeler cores are regulated by New Zealand MAF under this standard when they are used for wood packaging. The most important revision is that, upon implementation of this standard, expected 1 May 2006, treatment of all wood packaging will be mandatory and untreated imported wood packaging will be treated, reshipped or destroyed. It is important to note that this requirement applies to both containerised and uncontainerised/break bulk cargo.
7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:

<p>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: New Zealand existing import requirements for wood packaging material can be accessed at: http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/forests/standards/non-viable-forest-produce/wood-packaging.htm</p> <p>The consultation documents can be found here: http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/strategy-and-consultation/consultation/ihs</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption: 1 May 2006</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: 1 May 2006</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: 18 April 2006.</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Senior Advisor, Forestry, Level 13, MAF Biosecurity New Zealand, PO Box 2526, 25 The Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand. Fax: +64 4 819 0662. Email: plantimports@maf.govt.nz</p>
<p>13. Texts available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Ms Sally Griffin, Coordinator, SPS New Zealand, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand. Tel: +64 4 819 0431; Fax: +64 4 819 0731; E-mail: sps@maf.govt.nz Website: http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/sps/transparency/notifications/index.htm</p>