

Working Group 2: Solid Wood Packaging: An Important Domestic Pathway



Wood Packaging Material

Wood packaging material or WPM is also called Non-Manufactured Wood Packing (NMWP) or Solid Wood Packing Material (SWPM) defined as “hardwood and softwood packaging, excluding:

- Plywood, particle board, oriented strand board, veneer, wood wool, etc.

WPM includes but is not limited to pallets, skids, pallet collars, containers, cratings/crates, boxes, cases, bins, reels, drums, load boards, dunnage. Wood packaging made of exempt materials but combined with solid wood components must still be treated and marked.



The Challenge

Once exotic pests become established they may be transported from areas of infestation to other domestic locations.



The S0lution

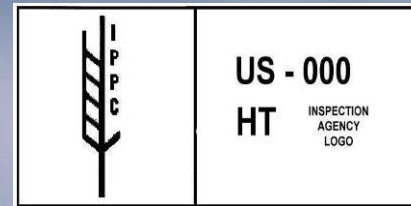
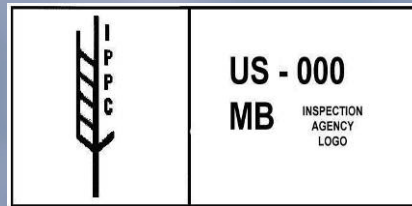
(or at least part of the solution)

Adoption of an ISPM 15 - like domestic standard for solid wood packaging U.S. wide.

ISPM 15

The International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures guidelines for regulatory wood packaging material in international trade (ISPM 15)

- One of several measures adopted by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)



ISPM 15 - like Domestic Guidelines (Rule)

- A few of the **Challenges**:
 - Variety of Wood Packaging Materials
 - Complexity and size of the industry
 - Cost
 - Treatment facilities
 - Reconstructed pallets
 - Availability and constraints of MB and other fumigants
 - Change of Administration
 - Crowded rule docket

ISPM 15 - like Domestic Guidelines (Rule)

Activities:

- USDA-APHIS-PPQ/Industry discussions since early 2007
- WPM breakout session at December 2007 Continental Dialogue meeting
- Widespread adoption of the international standards

ISPM 15 - like Domestic Guidelines (Rule)

Accomplishments:

- Broad coalition of support for managing WPM's
- The Nature Conservancy
- American Forest and Paper Associates
- American Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA)
- City of Chicago – Bureau of Forestry
- Davey Institute of Tree Sciences
- National Association of State Foresters
- National Wood Pallet and Container Association
- Mulch and Soil Council
- Society of American Florists
- Society of American Foresters
- June 12, 2008: Letter to Agriculture Secretary Schafer supporting adoption of U.S. wide standards for solid wood packaging
- Rule drafting by USDA in progress

ISPM 15 - like Domestic Guidelines (Rule)

Opportunities:

- Risk Assessment in progress – USDA-APHIS-PPQ Center for Plant Health Science and Technology (CPHST)
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) considering WPM issue and possible solutions
- Paul Chaloux – recently appointed point of contact

Questions ??