

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE TREATMENT AND MARKING OF WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL BY REGISTERED TREATMENT PROVIDERS AND PALLETMAKERS IN TERMS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES NO 15 - GUIDELINES FOR REGULATING WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

1. INTRODUCTION

▪ **Objectives:**

To provide a standard operating procedure to be followed by registered manufacturers or treatment providers of wood packaging material wrt the use of the international certification mark in terms of the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No 15 - Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.

▪ **Principles**

To ensure that South Africa complies with the requirements of the International Plant Protection Convention - International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures Number 15. (IPPC - ISPM No 15) "Guideline for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade."

▪ **References**

- Revised Text of the International Plant Protection Convention
- International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No 15: "Guideline for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade."

2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

"IPPC" means the International Plant Protection Convention

"ISPM" means International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures

"NPPO" means the National Plant Protection Organization"

"wood packaging" means wood or wood products (excluding paper products) used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity, including dunnage, pallets, crating, packing blocks, drums, cases, load boards, pallet collars and skids.¹

3. REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1.1 The registered manufacturer or treatment provider of wood packaging material company shall apply the international certification mark, which includes the allocated unique registration number, to the treated wood according to Annex II of ISPM 15.
- 3.1.2 The treatment date shall be applied with the mark to the treated wood packaging material to correspond with auditing and traceability records.
- 3.1.3 Comprehensive records including detail of treatment to confirm compliance with ISPM No. 15 requirements shall be kept for auditing purposes.
- 3.1.4 The SA NPPO shall audit/monitor the registered manufacturer or treatment provider of wood packaging material on an ongoing basis.
- 3.1.5 Should any official notification of interception be received from the NPPO of an importing country, the registration shall be withdrawn with immediate effect. The matter will be investigated to determine the reasons for non-compliance. Effective pest risk management must be ensured for registration to be reinstated in future.

¹ Wood packaging made wholly of wood-based products such as plywood, particle board, oriented strand board or veneer that have been created using glue, heat and pressures or a combination thereof should be considered sufficiently processed to have eliminated the risk associated with the raw wood.

4. METHODOLOGY

Wood packaging material shall be treated by either heat treatment or fumigation as prescribed in ISPM no 15.

Heat treatment (HT)

Kiln-drying (KD), chemical pressure impregnation (CPI), or other treatments may be considered HT treatments to the extent that these meet the HT specifications. For example, CPI may meet the HT specification through the use of steam, hot water, or dry heat.

Wood packaging material shall be heated in accordance with a specific time temperature schedule that achieves a minimum wood core temperature of 56 ° C for a minimum of 30 minutes. *

Heat treatment is indicated by the mark HT. (see Annexure II)

Methyl bromide fumigation (MB)

The wood packaging material shall be fumigated with methyl bromide. The treatment is indicated by the mark MB. The minimum standard for methyl bromide fumigation treatment for wood packaging material is as follows:

Temperature	Dosage rate	Minimum concentration (g/m ³) at:			
		0.5 hrs	2 hrs	4 hrs	16 hrs
21° or above	48	36	24	17	14

The minimum temperature shall not be less than 10°C and the minimum exposure time should be 16 hours. *

List of most significant pests targeted by HT and MB

Members of the following pest groups associated with wood packaging material are practically eliminated by HT and MB treatment in accordance with the specifications listed above:

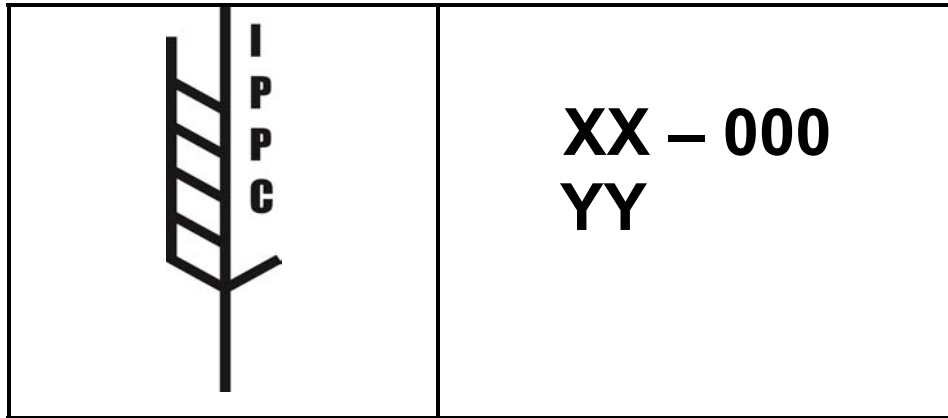
Pest group
Insects
Anobiidae
Bostrichidae
Buprestidae
Cerambycidae
Curculionidae
Isoptera
Lyctidae (with some exceptions for HT)
Oedemeridae
Scolytidae
Siricidae
Nematodes
<i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i>

* A minimum core temperature of 56 °C for a minimum of 30 min. is chosen in consideration of the wide range of pests for which this combination is documented to be lethal and a commercially feasible treatment. Although it is recognized that some pest are known to have a higher thermal tolerance, quarantine pest in this category are managed by NPPO s on a case by case basis.

* Certain countries require that the minimum commodity temp should be higher.

Marking

The mark shown below is to certify that the wood packaging material that bears the mark has been subjected to an approved measure



The mark should at minimum include the :

- Symbol
- ISO two letter country code (ZA for South Africa) followed by a unique number assigned by the NPPO to the producer of the wood packaging material, who is responsible for ensuring appropriate wood is used and properly marked.
- IPPC abbreviation according to Annex I of ISPM No 15, for the approved measure used (e.g. HT, MB)

Markings should be:

- According to the model shown here
- Legible
- Permanent and not transferable
- Place in a visible location, preferably on at least two opposite sides of the article being certified

No red or orange ink or colouring shall be used for the marking.

Recycled, remanufactured or repaired wood packaging material shall be re-certified and re-marked. All components of such material shall be treated.

5. REVIEW

The National Department of Agriculture, Directorate: South African Agricultural Food, Quarantine and Inspections Services shall review this standard operational procedure annually , taking into consideration any amendments to ISPM no. 15 by the IPPC.

6. ENDORSEMENT

This standard operation procedure was endorsed by the relevant Senior Manager.