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Trade Alert – Log Exports to China

As we go to press, there is still no “official” communication regarding reports of “changes to Chinese customs enforcement on imported hardwood logs, including reports that log shipments are being halted at several Chinese ports while enforcement policies are clarified.”

The Hardwood Federation is working to get information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. And the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) is seeking clarification from the U.S. Agricultural Trade Office in China.

For now, AHEC Executive Director Mike Snow advises exporters to check with their “freight forwarders before making any additional shipments,” and has provided the following USDA-APHIS phyto requirements for hardwood log shipments to China:

The most stringent China requirements are on **oak** with bark, due to oak wilt. We are required to fumigate with methyl bromide, at 15 lbs/1000 ft³ for 72 hours. Without bark, only a Phyto Certificate is required.

Other Species Logs (Hardwood) from All Other States

- With Bark:
 - Phytosanitary Certificate (PC) is required. State of origin must be listed on PC. Logs must be safeguarded with a secure cover or otherwise segregated after treatment and cannot be stored directly on soil.
 - Logs must be treated with: Methyl Bromide (Tarp or Chamber) 41 to 59F 7.5lbs/1000ft³ for 16hrs; 60 or above 5lbs/1000ft³ for 16hrs,
- Without Bark:
 - Phytosanitary Certificate (PC) is required. State of origin must be listed on PC. Logs must be safeguarded with a secure cover or otherwise segregated after inspection and/or treatment (if required) and cannot be stored directly on soil.
 - Additional Declaration (AD), "The logs in this shipment are without bark."
 - Individual logs must have less than 5% bark on the surface area and the entire shipment must have less than 2% bark overall.

Other Species Logs (Hardwood) from SC and VA

- With Bark:
 - Phytosanitary Certificate (PC) is required. State of origin must be listed on PC. The treatment facility must be listed in the treatment section in the additional information box. Logs must be safeguarded with a secure cover or otherwise segregated after treatment and cannot be stored directly on soil.
 - Logs must be treated with Methyl Bromide (tarp or chamber):
 - 41 to 59F 7.5lbs/1000ft³ for 24 hours
 - 60 or above 5lbs/1000ft³ for 24 hours
- Without Bark:
 - Phytosanitary Certificate (PC) is required. State of origin must be listed on PC. Logs must be safeguarded with a secure cover or otherwise segregated after inspection and/or treatment (if required) and cannot be stored directly on soil.
 - Additional Declaration (AD), "The logs in this shipment are without bark."
 - Logs must have less than 5% bark on the surface area.

When available, updated information on this issue will be posted to Industry News & More – AHEC at www.HMAmembers.org.