

CFIA's Forestry Market Access Report - Delivered to the QC hardwood industry by Marcel Dawson on 22 January, 2020

File: EU - six-sided wrapping for softwood lumber

Current Status: EU requires post treatment 6-sided wrapping requirements for heat treated coniferous lumber. CFIA submitted a technical dossier to support relaxed wrapping requirements. A letter was received October 2019 from the EU exempting KD-HT lumber from the 6-sided wrapping requirement effective Dec 14th, 2019.

Next Steps: KD-HT lumber represents the majority of lumber exported to EU countries. Six-sided wrapping requirements remain in place for HT lumber.

Proposed Timelines: No further action at this time – resolved for KD-HT lumber only.

File: EU – Recognition of 56/30 HT for Ash

Current Status: Ash to the EU is currently required to be heat-treated to 71C for 1200 minutes

Next Steps: Engage the EU to recognize science-based approach to accepting 56/30 heat treatment for ash to the EU. Submit technical package supporting recognition of 56/30.

Proposed Timelines: Submit technical package by April 30, 2020 (two months in advance of expiry of derogation June 2020).

File: US Origin Walnut to the EU

Current Status: Effective Sept 1, 2019 US origin Walnut lumber is required to be HT 56/40. Marc Savard (FPInnovations) confirmed Option G meets EU HT requirements. However, shipments need to be certified based on verifying kilns charts for Option G.

Next Steps: Inquiry sent to Marc Savard (Sept 9, 2019) whether other any other Options can meet 56/40 requirements. Marc is working on a temperature profile for Walnut to support acceptability of other Options available in PI-07 to meet 56/40. Marc suggested easiest approach for the short term is to add 10 minutes to PI-07 schedules. Update ECS and issue a notification to industry and to Operations.

Proposed Timelines: January 2020

File UK: negotiations of new derogations for heat treated coniferous lumber and Thuja spp. lumber

The UK will no longer apply EU regulations post Brexit. New derogations may need to be negotiated. THE NPPO has been contacted to start work on this file.

Current Status: A response from the NPPO of the UK is awaited on regarding next steps.

Next Steps: Pending response from the UK NPPO.

Proposed timelines: Timeline will depend on the response of the NPPO.

File: India - acceptance of heat-treated cherry, walnut, hickory and birch

Current Status: Currently India requires these species to be fumigated.

Next Steps: Technical dossiers prepared by CFS will be presented to the Indian delegates at the upcoming Canada-India PHTWG meeting (tentatively early- to mid-January 2020)

Proposed Timelines: Pending PHTWG meeting anticipated in March 2020

File: Iran - recognition of Canada's systems approach

Current Status: Letter from received from Iran indicated requirements are for 70C/4 hours. Letter and dossier were sent to Iran June 25, 2018 and Feb 18, 2019 advocating for acceptance of 56/30 under the HT Program

Next Steps: Awaiting response from Iran

Proposed Timelines: On hold pending response from Iran/re-opening of diplomatic engagement

File: Mexico – Bark tolerance for HT Lumber

Current Status: In 2017 CFIA sent technical justification supporting a request for bark requirements be modified in line with ISPM 15. CFIA also requested SEMARNAT's confirmation that the verbal understanding that ISPM 15 bark levels are acceptable for KD-HT lumber under a bilateral arrangement. SEMARNAT confirmed this is still valid and indicated they would send a letter to confirm. Post and CFIA followed up with SEMARNAT respectively in June 2018 and February 2019, but no official response has been provided. During an Aug 7th, 2019 meeting, SEMARNAT indicated that every year, there is a call for revisions of the NOM-016 standard which could be an opportunity to propose the revision of the tolerance for bark on lumber. Post will follow-up with SEMARNAT. The CFPWG was updated as to the status of this file.

Next Steps: Post to follow up with SEMARNAT to ensure CFIA's proposal is considered at the next call for revisions of standards and to ensure that a response is provided on the verbal understanding about residual bark.

Package resubmitted - CFIA requested Post to follow-up with SEMARNAT Dec 17th, 2019. Confirmation from post follow-up with SEMARNAT will occur early in 2020.

Proposed Timelines: Pending receipt of Mexico's response.

File: Sri Lanka – access for Hardwood lumber

Current Status: On June 6, 2018 a letter and technical document was sent to Sri Lanka advocating for acceptance of heat treatment (56/30) for Canadian hardwood species including Quercus and Prunus. Follow-up was requested on the status of the inquiry on July 5, 2018.

Next Steps: Awaiting response from Sri Lanka

Proposed Timelines: On hold pending Sri Lanka's response

File: Malaysia - acceptance of Phyto only for lumber

Current Status: Malaysia requires an HT Certificate as well as a phyto for lumber. This causes problems for hardwood exporters who are not under the HT Program

Next Steps: Follow up on correspondence

Proposed Timelines: On hold pending response from Malaysia