

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Date: 8/16/2016

GAIN Report Number: IN6109

India

Post: New Delhi

WTO Notified Plant Quarantine Eighth Amendment 2016

Report Categories:

FAIRS Subject Report

WTO Notifications

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Grain and Feed

Wood Products

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

The Government of India (GOI) notified Draft Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Eighth Amendment) Order, 2016 to the WTO for comments on July 7 with the comment period closing on August 31. The Amendment revises the 2003 Plant Quarantine Order. The Amendment proposes changes to the phytosanitary conditions governing the import of certain plants and plant materials including timber and wood/bamboo products and wheat flour for consumption.

General Information:

Disclaimer: The information contained in this report was retrieved from GOI and WTO websites: <http://agricoop.nic.in/> and <http://www.wto.org>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The summary below is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and, therefore, should not under any circumstances be viewed as a definitive interpretation of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural trade interests.

Content Synopsis: The GOI notified Draft Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Eighth Amendment) Order, 2016 to the WTO for comments (see [WTO/SPS/N/IND/149](http://www.wto.org/Trade_Policy/Trade_Policy_Review/Trade_Policy_Review/Trade_Policy_Review/Trade_Policy_Review/WTO/SPS/N/IND/149)) on July 7, 2016. The draft regulation claims to further liberalize provisions governing imports of items listed under Schedule 6 of the Plant Quarantine Order, 2003. The deadline for comments was listed as August 31, 2016 with a proposed date of adoption on September 1 and entry into force proposed for September 10, 2016.

The draft amendment includes bamboo and bamboo products with timber and wood products under the general conditions of import under Clause 9 (1) and (3) in chapter 2. The fumigation and treatment requirements remain the same as reported in [IN6071](#), but wood and bamboo based products such as manufactured/finished/handicrafts/furniture/joinery and articles from carpentry etc. shall be fumigated/treated prior to manufacturing/crafting/finishing process, and the treatment shall be endorsed on the phytosanitary certificate issued at the country of export. Containerized cargo of wood/bamboo based products shall also be inspected by plant quarantine officials under their respective jurisdiction.

The draft also amends Schedule 6 with additional declarations required for special conditions for imported wood and bamboo products and fumigation conditions against storage pests in wheat flour for consumption.

The draft regulation can be accessed at

http://agricoop.nic.in/Admin_Agricoop/Uploaded_File/WTO1662016.pdf

and should be considered along with the 2003 Plant Quarantine Order – Consolidated Version (with Amendments as published on July 5, 2016)

<http://plantquarantineindia.nic.in/PQISPub/pdf/files/PQorder2015.pdf>

Comments should be sent to:

Ms. Anita Puri, Deputy Secretary (Plant Protection)

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Final administrative details on the draft regulation:

Type of Regulation: Draft

Publication on the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Website: June 16, 2016

WTO Notification Date: July 7, 2016

Final Date for Comments: August 31, 2016

Date of Implementation: September 1, 2016 (proposed)

Date of Entry into force: September 10, 2016 (tentative)

WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/IND/149

Agency in Charge: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare