NOTIFICATION

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** United States of America  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) |
| **3.** | **Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):** Marine Vessels |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[****X]** **All trading partners**  **[ ]****Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Proposed Revisions to APHIS Guidance Document: *Special Procedures for Ships Arriving from Areas with Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM)* - modifications to specified risk periods in Japan, Russia, Republic of Korea and China.**Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 7  <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/revised-special-procedures-ships-arriving-areas-agm.pdf> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** Description of content:  APHIS is revising its Guidance document on *Special Procedures for Ships Arriving from Areas with Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM)* to reflect proposed changes to specified risk periods (SRPs) as noted in the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Position Document on Asian gypsy moth (AGM) specified risk periods in Japan, Russia, Republic of Korea and China. The APHIS proposed changes are based on regional scientific and technical analysis conducted by the Asian gypsy moth Expert Group of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), which includes APHIS as one of its members.  The Asian gypsy moth Expert Group of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) has reviewed the specified risk periods (SRPs) for the AGM species complex in all AGM regulated countries (China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and Russia). Following a review of available data and consultations with AGM-regulated countries, revisions to the SRPs are proposed for Japan and Russia which include:   * Adjustments to the SRP regions and extending the SRP start and end dates for some regions in Japan. * Extending the SRP start and end date in Russia. * A reduction in the total number of specified risk periods from six to four.   Based on available data, there are no changes to the SRPs for the Republic of Korea or China at this time.  For vessels which call on ports in North America, the revision to the SRPs mean that the time period where AGM certification is required for vessels that have called on ports in Japan and Russia has been increased/lengthened. Implementation of changes to the SRPs is planned to begin in 2022.  APHIS will finalize the updates to the Guidance document *Special Procedures for Ships Arriving from Areas with Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM)* to reflect the changes to the SRPs by November 2021.  Countries in which a marine shipping industry operates will be the most affected as any vessels destined to the U.S. that called on ports in Japan, far-east Russia, China and the Republic of Korea during the Specified Risk Period (SRP) for Asian gypsy moth (AGM) will need to comply with the revised SRP dates. AGM-regulated countries will be the most affected as their inspection and certification bodies will need to adjust to accommodate increased workload due to the expansion of the SRPs in far east Russia and Japan. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [ ]****food safety, [ ]****animal health, [****X]****plant protection, [ ]****protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [****X]****protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[ ]****Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**  **[ ]****World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[ ]****International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**  **[****X]** **None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[ ]****Yes [ ]****No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** North American Plant Protection Organization Position Document on Asian gypsy moth (AGM) specified risk periods in Japan, Russia, Republic of Korea and China (open for consultation from 17 May - 16 July 2021):  <https://nappo.org/english/country-consultation-2021/NAPPO-POSITION-DOCUMENT>  Current APHIS *Special Procedures for Ships Arriving from Areas with Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM)*: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/AGM_Procedures.pdf>  The final revised guidance will appear on the APHIS website by November 2021 when adopted (available in English):  <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/plant-pest-and-disease-programs/pests-and-diseases/gypsy-moth> (available in English) |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 1 November 2021  **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 1 November 2021 |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ]****Six months from date of publication**, **and/or** ***(dd/mm/yy)*:** 1 January 2022  **[ ]****Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [ ]****Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 17 July 2021  **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [ ]****National Notification Authority, [ ]****National Enquiry Point.** **Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  Dr. Ingrid Asmundsson  National Program Manager for Asian Gypsy Moth Offshore Vessel Program  Preclearance and Offshore Programs, PPQ, APHIS  4700 River Road  Riverdale, MD 20737  Tel: +(301) 851 2235  Email: ingrid.m.asmundsson@usda.gov |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [ ]****National Notification Authority, [ ]****National Enquiry Point.** **Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/revised-special-procedures-ships-arriving-areas-agm.pdf> |