



> Retouradres Postbus 9102 6700 HC Wageningen

**Plantenziektenkundige
Dienst**

Geertjesweg 15
6706 EA Wageningen
Postbus 9102
6700 HC Wageningen
www.minlnv.nl/aziatischeboktor

Contactpersoon

PD Helpdesk Uitvoering

T 0317 49 6647
pd.info@minlnv.nl

Onze referentie

TRCPD/2010/1151

Date 23 April 2010

Subject Change of import inspections for plant material from China

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) has decided to change the import inspections for plants from countries where the citrus longhorn beetle occurs with immediate effect. This letter gives the reasons for the decision and the consequences for you as an importer.

Relaxation of import inspections

The European Union intends to tighten import requirements for the host plants¹ from China specified in Commission Decision 2008/840/EC.

The Ministry has decided to change the import inspections for most plants originating from China, following the proposed decision of the European Union and further analysis carried out by the Plant Protection Service of risks related to potential host plants.

Consequences for import measures are as follows:

1. The current approach for import inspections for the 17 host plants (and *Cercis* spp.) from China specified in Commission Decision 2008/840/EC and for *Acer* spp. originating from other countries where the beetle occurs will be maintained. This approach comprises two inspections including destructive sampling and a quarantine period of 3 to 6 weeks.
2. For other deciduous trees and shrubs, and also *Cryptomeria* spp. originating from China, import inspection will be reduced to a single visual inspection on entry, supplemented by destructive sampling of 1% of plants per consignment.

What does this mean for you as an importer?

This means that the inspection measures for plants not mentioned in the EU decision (and *Cercis* spp) are relaxed.

This applies, for example, to the import of *Ficus* and *Pachira*.

1% of these imports will still be subject to destructive sampling and consignments will be released immediately following the import inspection, if no signs of the beetle or other harmful organisms are detected. No additional quarantine area is therefore required for these plants.

**Plantenziektenkundige
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UK stops random destructive sampling

Further to my letter of 15 April 2010, indicating that the United Kingdom would carry out destructive tests on samples of a maximum of 1,000 host plants arriving from Boskoop, I can inform you that this figure of 1,000 plants has been reached. The UK has informed us that it will refrain from further such checks. The UK will from now only perform routine inspections on all plants, in principle regardless of their origin, and will only carry out destructive sampling if symptoms are detected.

Datum

23 april 2010

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Request: share this information with your business relations!

The information in this letter is not only of great importance for you, but also for your business relations. I would therefore urge you to pass this information on to the companies you deal with. This letter can be downloaded from our website.

Further information

Further information on the citrus longhorn beetle (*Anoplophora chinensis*) can be found on our website (www.minlnv.nl/aziatischeboktor). If you have any questions arising from this letter, please telephone the PD Helpdesk (0317-4966447) or send an e-mail to pd.info@minlnv.nl.

Yours faithfully,

H.A. Harmsma
Plant Protection Service

¹ The host plants specified in Commission Decision 2008/840/EC are: *Acer* spp., *Aesculus hippocastanum*, *Alnus* spp., *Betula* spp., *Carpinus* spp., *Citrus* spp., *Corylus* spp., *Cotoneaster* spp., *Fagus* spp., *Lagerstroemia* spp., *Malus* spp., *Platanus* spp., *Populus* spp., *Prunus* spp., *Pyrus* spp., *Salix* spp. en *Ulmus* spp.